Fresh Face: Ribbon Cutting for JLP Thrift Shop and Headquarters New Façade

By Diane Oliva

Take a drive through Ardmore, and you cannot help but do a double take at the Junior League of Philadelphia Thrift Shop and Headquarters. Is this crisp, fresh new building the same Thrift Shop? You bet it is! The building’s façade began its overhaul in the fall of 2007. Enhancements included repointed bricks, painting, new insulated glass windows, custom wooden framework, doors, and lighting.

For months, the building was shrouded in tarps, while we waited in anticipation for the big day. Our Thrift Shop and Headquarters celebrated its façade unveiling with an official ribbon cutting on Friday, April 4, 2008. State and township officials, League members, the press, and locals surrounded JLP President Susan Mostek while she cut the ribbon to our building, beginning a new era.

“This building helps the JLP live out its mission, and the new façade is a milestone in making our headquarters a foundation of community service in the greater Philadelphia area,” says Mostek. Attending officials included State Representative Daylin Leach and Commissioners Scott Zelov and Lance Rogers. To add to the excitement, Lower Merion Township awarded The League a $20,000 grant for the façade renovations. Economic Development Specialist, Eric Persson presented Mostek with a $20,000 check.

After the ribbon was cut and the speeches were given, it was “shop ‘til you drop” once we crossed the threshold. There were some great buys to be found from clothing to jewelry to housewares. Talbots also improved the look of the interior of the Thrift Shop by donating thousands of dollars worth of fixtures and merchandising display items. League member Marcie Bevan sold her one-of-a-kind beaded necklaces and donated 25% of the sales back to JLP.

The Thrift Shop committee hosted quite a party with plenty of food, drink, and festivities, including a cake for Jeanie Bahnsen’s retirement. Jeanie, who is a Sustainer, has worked at the Thrift Shop for 15 years.

If you have not visited the Thrift Shop and Headquarters lately, please stop by and check out the new façade as well as the constantly changing stock of merchandise. The Thrift Shop is the main source of funding for the JLP. Donations and purchases help all of us continue to make a difference in the community! Spread the word!"
President’s Perspective

Annual Dinner Speech

by Susan Mostek

Thank you so much for coming out tonight to celebrate the Junior League of Philadelphia. Tonight is the night we recognize all of your efforts and participation in this incredible non-profit organization. For 96 years we have existed, one member, one committee, one story at a time. With the amount of tasks we accomplished, I ask the question "how do you measure a year in the life of the Junior League?"

525,600 minutes — On June 1 we hit the ground running and never looked back. The Junior League accomplished wonderful things: a remarkable strategic plan, a new focus, three new projects, marketing materials, successful fundraisers, and the façade renovation. In 2003 we purchased a building with the intent of having a façade renovation. In 2003 we purchased a materials, successful fundraisers, and the focus, three new projects, marketing things: a remarkable strategic plan, a new

Our successes this year would not have been possible without the tireless dedication of our staff. The Thrift Shop women are simply incredible. Patty, Crystal, and Edna, of our staff. The Thrift Shop women are simply incredible. Patty, Crystal, and Edna, of our staff. The Thrift Shop women are simply incredible. Patty, Crystal, and Edna, of our staff. The Thrift Shop women are simply incredible. Patty, Crystal, and Edna, of our staff. The Thrift Shop women are simply incredible. Patty, Crystal, and Edna, of our staff. The Thrift Shop women are simply incredible. Patty, Crystal, and Edna, of our staff.

These things are easy to measure as they are tangible, but I think what really measures the quality of a year are the lives you have touched and the memories you have made both inside and outside the JLP. Whether it is the child that you helped and will ever remain in your heart, or a particular event that you participated in, or helped to create, that was successful, this is what makes you love the League. The ability to touch so many and foster such wonderful bonds make our organization very special.

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In parting, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to have served as your President this year. It has been a tremendous privilege and I have learned so much from all of you. Your commitment and your efforts are truly humbling. I could not have done this without the tremendous support of my family and friends, in particular my husband Walter, whose unconditional love and patience is inspirational. His resume has a whole new set of skills now. Not many men can simultaneously cook dinner, help with homework and style the hair of a four-year old all at the same time. For me it has been an awesome adventure, one that has allowed me to grow and one that has given me wonderful memories. I would like to thank you for the gift of a wonderful 525,600 minutes. — Susan

Donor Recognition

The JLP wishes to thank the following donors for supporting their various campaigns throughout the year. Their contributions allow our programs to create a lasting impact throughout the Philadelphia region.

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Fifteen actives met at the Havertown home of President-elect Samantha Soldan for a cookbook tasting on Saturday, April 26. Actives in attendance included President Heidi Tirjan, Treasurer Sarah Turner, Bertina Whytehead, Amelia Warner, and Cassie Pickens. The ladies tasted and reviewed recipes submitted by local restaurants and fellow JLP members.

Dianne Smith expertly prepared Twenty Manning Restaurant’s “Grilled Thai Prawns with Roasted Yams,” which presented a fusion of East meets West flavor. Diane seasoned the shrimp in a marinade of herbs and oyster sauce prior to grilling them onsite. Several tasters commented that the yams were a pleasantly surprising addition that added depth, balance, and a hint of sweetness to the savory dish. Other reviewers stated that they enjoyed the flavors of lemongrass and thyme accenting the shrimp.

Another hit was Cork Restaurant’s “Red Apple Bellini” recipe, which mixed ingredients such as sparkling wine and apple liqueur. The result was a light, refreshing cocktail that provided a contemporary twist to the classic bellini. Due to its champagne base, the drink would be versatile enough to serve at either a Sunday brunch or a dinner party.

Among the JLP member-supplied recipes was a Lamb Lasagna Roll-up submitted by Maryann Brumbelow of Annapolis and her daughter, Cookbook Chair Paula Brumbelow. Justine Hansen prepared the lasagna for the event. The dish featured the Mediterranean flavors of lamb, goat cheese, dried fruit, and garlic.

Aside from holding tasting events, the rest of the Cookbook Committee is working diligently to secure sponsorship and write the supporting text for the book. Several popular fine dining establishments ranging from Nectar in Berwyn to Philadelphia’s Waterworks Restaurant are participating with in-kind donations and recipe contributions. These recipes will appear alongside those created by League members.

Recently appointed co-Editors in Chief of the Cookbook, Jennifer Morgan and Nissa O’Mara, noted that they were excited for the fundraising and promotional opportunities the Cookbook will afford the JLP. The committee expects that the book will enable the League to increase its visibility in the Philadelphia Metropolitan area and to attract new members. Additionally, funds raised will support the JLP Mission and serve as a compliment to other development projects such as Casino Night and the Thrift Shop.

“Junior League Cookbooks are highly regarded throughout the country for their award-winning recipes and regional flavors. Our book will be no exception, and it will feature top-notch professional food photography in addition to a diverse collection of recipes. People will definitely want to include our League’s book in their collection, and I know everyone on the committee is proud to be a part of this legacy,” Morgan explained.

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**REMEMBER**

The Hotline email address is hotline@jlphiladelphia.org and the deadline for the July/August issue is June 25th.
COMMUNITY

Princeton Review Offers Services and Seminars to JLP

By Laura Longwell

Exciting new benefit for JLP members! As a result of Achieve College Today’s long standing successful partnership with the Princeton Review, they have offered to extend a discount to our membership. For SAT test preparation services, the Princeton Review is offering our JLP members, their siblings, or children, a 10 percent discount on their fees.

In addition, if you are seeking application to graduate, business, law, or medical schools, the Princeton Review is offering to provide admissions seminars or panel discussions on gaining admittance to these institutions. This generous offer is a true testament to the outstanding work that our Achieve College Today project has been able to accomplish over the last several years.

There is a discount off the test prep for grad schools. Members interested in finding out more information can contact Dave DeVenney of the Princeton Review at DDeVenney@Review.com.

Thrift Shop

Giving Back: How the Thrift Shop Supports the Local Community

By Patty Franks

I am sure you are all aware of how important the community and our location are to our Shop. We are very fortunate to be located in an area whose affluent residents give to our Shop in the form of lovely donations.

But are you aware of how your Shop gives back to the community? The primary way is in the proceeds of the Shop, which funds the JLP projects. The Shop also gives back with our direct outreach to the neighborhood. We provide a source of fulfillment to those who are not League members, but want to give of their time to support our mission and projects. These volunteers from the community, a great many of whom walked through our doors after 9/11, are extremely loyal and volunteer usually once a week.

We also have become part of the curriculum of the Lower Merion School system. A tenth grade community service course is taught at both Lower Merion and Harriton High School. The children can elect to spend up to forty hours of required community service hours with us for credit. A few have come back to us and said the outreach has made a difference in the course of their lives. We have also written many letters of recommendation for college and many of the young ladies have expressed an interest in becoming members of the League after college.

The third way we directly give to the community is our involvement in the Youth Aid Program of Montgomery County. We provide a venue for community service for underage children in the community who have gotten into a little bit of trouble for minor offenses. As a minor, by doing mandated community service with us, the offense can be expunged from their record.

In both cases, the high school student and youth aid, we must provide a written evaluation, but their service to us is very valuable, and it is an outreach that the staff truly enjoys and feels is rewarding.

Fundraising: Celebrate Spring With Flowers

Grower Flowers donates 10 percent of any gifts ordered and 20 percent of any Growers Fresh orders to the JLP with the affiliate code of 47576. Grower Fresh orders are fresh from the farm. Orders can be placed by phone at (888) 321-7673 or via the website at www.growerflowers.com. Celebrate the rites of spring with the gift of flowers.
It is an honor and privilege to become your Sustainer Chair. Growing up in a household where volunteering was the norm made my joining the JLP 20+ years ago a natural and why I remain active today. It is such a pleasure to see members from my provisional class and our mentors still so actively involved within the league and in our community.

I have thoroughly enjoyed the year preparing for my new role under the great leadership and guidance of outgoing Sustainer Chair, Pam Crutchfield, along with the Sustainer Board and Active President Susan Mostek and the JLP Board of Directors. Thanks to Pam for everything you do for the JLP and especially this year, from picking up Susan Meyers for the Water Works Party to flea market shopping and hat making for the Sustainer Project to smiling for the camera with husband Jim at Casino Night again this year and entertaining 25 women from JL of Long Beach in your home before the Philadelphia Flower Show. Not to mention all the various Sustainer and Active Board meetings! You have given me very big shoes to fill!

Many thanks to the great efforts of Louise Hill and her Nominating Committee, Margy Conlon, Rosemarie Francino, Cindy Landreth, Margie Patches and Pam Stiner, I am joined by a great group of women, both veterans and new Sustainers, who graciously accepted Board positions when they were called. I look forward to working closely with Sustainer Chair-Elect, Pam Maimone, who, for me, is a perfect example of the league experience. Pam was one of my advisees when I was a Provisional Advisor, became a friend and now we are working together again!

A big thank you to everyone involved in the very successful Sustainer Project with the Paul V. Fly School and the Norristown School District. Our contributions of clothing, books, and the Scholastic Reader packages are truly making a difference to children in that community.

Congratulations to Judy Ruse, 2007-08 Sustainer of the Year, for her contributions to the league and the community and to the very special Sustainers honored at our Spring Membership Meeting. In attendance were Carolyn Aller, Anne Bates, Jackie Counselman, Ruth (Dudy) Fergusson, Tacey Hole, Maree Regan, Peggy Stephenson, and Julie Stowe. Together, these women have contributed over 400 years of volunteering to the Junior League!

Attending Annual conference in San Diego this spring gave me a fabulous opportunity to spend quality time with the Active leaders, to meet Sustainers from many other leagues and attend a variety of Sustainer-specific and general league workshops. I look forward to using this knowledge and experience in the future.

Have a delightful summer and maybe I’ll see you in Avalon!

Best regards,

Sustainer News

By Betsy Mallon

Sustainer Chair’s Perspective

KUDOS

Congratulations to both Jen and Tricia who had very healthy babies over the past few days:

Cameron Marshall Ruff was born on Friday at 7 pounds 12 ounces and 21 inches long.

Elizabeth Jane Shacklett was born on Monday at 6 pounds 11 ounces and 20 inches.

As the outgoing Hotline Editor, I would like to thank the members of the Hotline Committee, Emily Alexander, Lauren Homel, Carlene Jordan, and Jen Morgan, for their support and assistance during this hectic year. I would also like to thank the wonderful staff of Innoprint, our printer, for their endless patience and kindness. Thank you also to all of our readers!

Books

June 19 - Double Bind by Chris Bohjalian

In this novel, Midwives author Chris Bohjalian commandeers the Great Gatsby characters and breathes new life into them in a complex literary thriller.

Hostess: Cynthia Adams
Leader: Karen Miller

Condolences

Our condolences are extended to the family of Sustainer Grace Russell Wheeler who died March 26, 2008.
The Special Sustainers (those who have reached age 80 and no longer have to pay dues) were honored at the Spring Luncheon at St. David’s Golf Club. Among them, they represent several hundred years of Junior League membership and countless hours of community volunteerism.

Spicy Jerk Pork with Sweet Salsa

Prep Time: 20 minutes plus marinade time  
Baking Time: 20 minutes  
Makes: 4 servings

Ingredients:  
4 tbs Jamaican Jerk Seasoning (can be found in spice aisle)  
2 pork tenderloins  
1 mango, diced  
1 c. pineapple, diced (can use canned)  
1 small vidalia onion, diced  
1 small red pepper, diced  
1 small jalapeno pepper, diced  
1-2 tbs fresh mint or cilantro

Rinse pork tenderloins and pat dry. Rub with jerk seasoning, cover and refrigerate for at least 2 hours.

In a small bowl, combine mango, pineapple, onion, peppers and mint. Cover salsa and let sit in refrigerator for at least 30 minutes.

Heat grill to medium high heat.

Place tenderloins on grill and close lid. Cook 7 minutes on first side, until grill marks appear. Turn tenderloins and close lid. Cook 6 minutes longer, until grill marks appear. At this point, turn off grill but let pork rest on grill with lid closed for 5 minutes.

Remove from grill and allow to rest for 5 more minutes on a plate or cutting board tented with foil.

A thermometer inserted into the thickest part of tenderloin should read 145-150 degrees.

This temperature will give you a pale pink center. If you prefer your pork well done, add 1–2 minutes to cooking times above until an internal temp of 160 degrees is established.

Slice pork into 1/4” inch slices, top with salsa.
Upcoming Dates 2008

JUNE
2nd  Afternoon Bridge (1 – 4 p.m.) – Bonnie Hamm, (610) 356-4277
8th  Board Thank-You Party – Pam & Jim Crutchfield
10th JLP Sustainer Bridge (10:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.) – Sara Ann Boenning, (610) 525-6488
19th Afternoon Bridge (1 - 4 p.m.) – Phyllis Scott, (610) 687-1227
19th Bookmarks – Hostess Cynthia Adams
24th JLP Sustainer Bridge (10:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.) – Sara Ann Boenning, (610) 525-6488

Project Welcome Back

Do you have friends who are former Junior League members? Encourage them to join our Sustainers’ group. It is a wonderful way to reconnect with friends and make new ones. It is easy to rejoin! For more information contact Susie Heller at 610-688-8875 or susieheller@verizon.net.

We’re Baaaack!

March 4 - 6, 2009
Bed, Breakfast, Blossoms & Barnes returns!
We Welcome New Committee Members
We’ll be looking for hostesses to house guests, homes for dinner parties, coordinators for the Thursday luncheon, Barnes trip and Friday luncheon organizers, cooks, drivers, and helpers.
Please contact Nancy Greytok or Susan Mease if you’d like to know more or to be kept abreast of the “doings.” You won’t want to be left out!
Susan Mease (610) 353-5627 or susan.mease@bridgesettlementcorp.com
Nancy Greytok (610)525-8663 or nangrey@comcast.net

Personal Shopping

Bloomingdale’s King of Prussia “Like No Other Store in the World”
Hate to shop and no time? Shop with convenience and know-how with Kathie Guenther, Sustainer, Manager of Personal Shopping. Great fashions for warm weather events. 610-337-6382 or kcguenther@verizon.net

Full-time position open in Thrift Shop

Fun job for a creative retail person.
Potential for advancement
Contact Patty Franks at (610) 896-8828.
Hotline Deadlines

July/August issue: June 25th

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@JLPhiladelphia.org. Each article must have a byline and a headline. Remember, the Hotline also accepts advertising: $15 for classified ads, $40 for business card-sized ads, $60 for 1/4 page ads, $125 for 1/2 page ads, and $225 for full-page ads. The dimensions for the ad sizes are: 8”x10.5” full page • 5.25”x8” half-page • 4”x5.25” quarter-page.

Upcoming Dates

JUNE
4th Books Aloud workshop
21st Books Aloud workshop

More details about all of these events and more can be found on the JLP website calendar: www.JLPhiladelphia.org.