By Ashley Hiser

On Saturday, November 7, the Junior League of Philadelphia, Inc. will host a Mural Arts dedication ceremony in Fernhill Park celebrating the continued partnership with Fairmount Park and the large scale community project which began last April with our 2008-2009 Provisional class. Our current Provisional members and the Green Volunteer Corps completed the project on two separate project days on September 26 and October 3, 2009.

Fernhill Park is a 52-acre park located in the diverse community of southwest Germantown. The park is an essential part of the community and is enjoyed by residents for its wide range of facilities including softball fields, basketball courts, and play equipment. The JLP’s greatest contribution to the park is the recently completed mural on the underpass that connects the upper and lower sections of the Park. Muralist, Bernie Wilkie, designed the mural after collaboration with the Fairmount Park Commission, JLP, and the Friends of Fernhill Park.

The mural depicts both historical and contemporary uses of the park, and it will demonstrate this through images of youth in full color and action scenes of volunteers participating in a clean-up day. The overarching goal of the mural is to bring together the past and present uses of the Park by unifying the two sides of the Park with similar and corresponding images.

Please join your fellow JLP members in this celebration on Saturday, November 7 at Fernhill Park at the formal dedication of the mural. Fernhill Park is located on the 4700 block of Wissahickon Avenue across the street from the Wissahickon Charter School in the Nicetown/Germantown section of Philadelphia. The nearest major intersection is Wissahickon and Roberts.

Makeovers and Mimosas at Saks, November 8!

By Sarah Apelquist

Back by popular demand, the Project Fundraising Committee is excited to announce its next fundraiser at Saks Fifth Avenue. Please save the date: Sunday, November 8, from 1-4 p.m. for an afternoon of makeovers, mimosas, and light bites at Saks’ Bala Cynwyd location. Makeup artists will be offering complimentary make-up applications with many of Saks’ makeup lines: Chanel, Armani, Laura Mercier, Nars, and Dior, to name a few. In addition to makeup consultations, you can mingle with your friends and begin your holiday shopping. Tickets for the event will be $40 in advance through the Junior League website. Non-Junior League members will be able to purchase tickets via our external website. Tickets will also be available at the door on the day of the event for $45. JLP members will receive one ways and means credit for each ticket purchased. All attendees will receive a $20 Saks Fifth Avenue gift card and a gift bag filled with cosmetics samples. In addition, Saks Fifth Avenue has generously offered to donate a portion of all proceeds from the event to the JLP. This is a great opportunity to reconnect with and meet new JLP friends while financially supporting our signature project. Please be sure to mark your calendars, tell your friends and come to Saks Fifth Avenue on November 8!
President’s Perspective:

By Sam Soldan

November is the time of year when we traditionally reflect upon and give thanks for our families, friends, and the other blessings in our lives. It is at this, the halfway point in the League year that our community projects are in full swing and I am always amazed and grateful for our members’ dedication to improving our local community.

This year the League has fully transitioned to its new focus area. Originally called “Outdoor Academics”, the Communications Council found that this name was not resonating with the membership and, with Board approval, renamed our focus area “Project GREEN: Using Nature to Nurture”. GREEN is an acronym for Growth Recreation Education Environment and Nutrition. It is our hope that this new name will better represent our new focus and conveys our goal to help children and their families become better stewards of their health and the environment by reconnecting with nature.

The Community Council is the JLP’s largest with six committees. Five of these committees (BOOST Camp, Campus Community Gardens, the Green Volunteer Corps (GVC), HIP Kids, and the RESPECT. Nature Club) fall within our new focus area. This year we had an unprecedented number of members sign up for one of these focus area driven committees as their first choice placement! In addition, we have the DIAD committee, a perennial favorite that provides a variety of projects with partnering non-profit organizations. What November would be complete without preparing Thanksgiving baskets for HELP Philadelphia?

Under the direction of Laura Longwell, our community projects are off to a strong start. HIP Kids and BOOST Camp have successful first events under their belts and the RESPECT. Nature Club committee members are gearing up for their science nights after completing training at Riverbend. The Campus Gardens Committee is at an exciting point in their project; after receiving input from the students of the Tanner G. Duckey Elementary School and the surrounding community, they are in the process of designing the garden with landscape architect Charles Brenton. Finally, the GVC remained dedicated to promoting voluntarism by joining forces with the 2009-2010 Provisional Class, the Friends of Fernhill Park, and our Fairmount Park partners to remove invasive plants and replace them with native plants, as well as to complete the mural started by last year’s Provisionals. In addition, volunteers from Temple University and Blank Rome LLP were recruited for this project. On November 7 we will be formally dedicating the mural with our partners from Fairmount Park and the Friends of Fernhill Park. I hope that many of you will join us as we give thanks for the League (Provisionals, Actives and Sustainers) and non-League members who participated in this project and celebrate the accomplishments of this year’s and last year’s Provisional classes.

Welcome Communications Council Director, Jennifer Morgan!

Recently, JLP Communications Council Director, Amy Shively, resigned due to her relocation to State College, PA. Thank you, Amy, for your dedicated service to the JLP.

Nominating slated Jennifer Morgan to fill the vacant position of Communications Council Director and the Board of Directors approved her nomination on September 23rd. Jennifer has served on the Hotline, Cookbook and Placement Committees and is an excellent addition to the JLP Board.

Board of Directors

Samantha Soldan, President
Dianne Smith, President-Elect
Alison Dyer, Secretary
Jeannette Schlegel, Treasurer
Susan Henley, Treasurer-Elect
Jennifer Morgan, Communications
Laura Longwell, Community
Elizabeth Kolb, Development
Laura Snead, Fundraising
Justine Hansen, Membership Development
Marcelle Parrish, Nominating
Rachel Reavy, Parliamentarian
Pam Maimone, Sustainer Chair
Bobbie Cameron, Sustainer Chair-Elect
Heidi Tirjan, Immediate Past President

Editor: Christina VanRiper
Sustainer Editor: Katharine Kessler
Office (610) 645-9696
Office Fax (610) 645-0996
www.JLPhila.org
JLP Thrift Shop (610) 896-8828
Hours: Monday – Saturday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Sunday 12 – 4 p.m.
Have you ever heard the story about the little boy who walked along the beach, picking up starfish and throwing them back into the water? At one point, he is approached by a wise man, who looks out along the beach at miles of starfish, turns to the boy, and says, “Young man, there are hundreds of starfish—you might as well give up, you are not going to be able to save them all.” The boy looks up, tosses another starfish back into the ocean, and replies, “But I just made a difference for that one.”

The Junior League of Philadelphia, Inc. prides itself on making a positive impact on the community. The Campus Community Gardens Committee seeks to extend this commitment to a community in North Philadelphia, near Temple University, as we work with them to develop a community garden.

The starfish story is symbolic of the task facing our committee of twenty-two dedicated members earlier this year. We have been told that hundreds of things stand in our way to success, but maybe it’s the thought that if we can provide food for at least one family, then we have done our job.

We have been in high spirits since June, working first to secure a landscape architect, and now to gain School District approval for land on which to build the garden. In the midst of this, we have also been planning events with the community to involve and engage them in the planning phases, and working with multiple outside vendors to secure the necessary supplies and knowledge to build a garden.

Next spring, the JLP will be constructing and planting a garden for the Dr. Tanner G. Duckrey community on an empty plot of land around the corner from the school, at N. 16th St. and West Susquehanna Avenue. The members of our committee are not only prepared to assist in building the garden with the students and community, but they also intend to remain in place to teach and inspire the community on how to care for the garden until the spring of 2011. The League will provide the tools, support, and materials to build the garden, which will ultimately give the community the power to successfully grow beautiful flowers and sustaining produce in their own backyard.

The Junior League promotes healthy lifestyles within the Philadelphia community, and helping the Dr. Tanner G. Duckrey community to design and build a garden is an extension of our dedication to healthy living. We believe that every young person should experience the world beyond the classroom—such experiences are an essential part of learning and personal development at any age. Being involved in a garden is a great way for students to learn about where food comes from, to develop teamwork, and to see the fruits of their labor by putting in hard work. In addition, gardens help children to develop a sense of stewardship, an appreciation of the growing process, and an understanding about the different food groups.

Like the little boy saving the starfish, each of you can make a difference towards the success of this project. If you would like to contribute to the success of this signature project, either with contributions in-kind (soil, tools, labor, etc.) or a monetary contribution, please contact: Christen Scalone – christenscalone@hotmail.com
Courtney Liggera - cligerra@gmail.com
Winter Time Fun: Upcoming Social Events

By Adie Amey

The Member Enrichment Committee kicked off the League year with three social events. First, celebrating autumn at Linvilla Orchards, taking bumpy hayrides, and picking apples and pumpkins for harvest goodies; followed up the next day with a relaxing mini-spa day at Origins; and ending with a thirty-minute workout session and healthy eating class at Summit Sports Training Center.

The committee has exciting events lined up for the winter season. On December 5, take a self-guided tour of Longwood Gardens. View the magic created by millions of twinkling lights and fragrant blooms. Grab your skis and hit the slopes at Bear Creek Mountain, or, if you don’t ski then pamper yourself at the spa, all taking place on January 9, 2010. What better way is there to unwind after the hectic holidays than with the ski and spa trip? Be sure to R.S.V.P. online for all events. Guests are welcome!

HIP Kids Hosts Grandparent’s Day at SMITH- The Kids’ Play Place in the Park

By Mary Peller

Although the weather on the morning of September 12 was a little wet, it did not dampen the enthusiasm of the HIP Kids Committee members partnered with SMITH – the kids’ play place in the park – for their first event. From 10 a.m -1 p.m. the committee celebrated Grandparent’s Day with activities included hula hooping, face painting, bubble blowing, and a mini tee ball field. Children also had the opportunity to make a picture frame for their grandparents. With all this activity, a playground and a playhouse, there were plenty of smiles to brighten the gray day.

Check the JLP website for the next HIP Kids event – all to be held at SMITH. If you can’t wait until then, the playground (for children 10 and under) and playhouse (for children 5 and under) are open from 10 a.m - 4 p.m., Tuesday through Sunday. The playground closes October 31 for the winter months.
The Shop is now almost back to normal except for a small part of the furniture room. We are awaiting the completion of the elevator and its installation.

We are now accepting and would love to have furniture in excellent condition to rebuild our inventory. Our bottom line is directly related to the quality of your donations. Please keep thinking of us.

We had our traditionally wonderful display of Halloween costumes and are now beginning to fill the floor with holiday items. Come do some holiday shopping at your Shop. Remember, we are open on Sundays and First Fridays for your convenience.

Playwright Henrik Ibsen once said, “A community is like a ship; everyone ought to be prepared to take the helm.”

Though spoken well over a century ago, these words still ring true today. In fact, I think they provide a fitting description of our approach to promoting leadership in the Junior League. Our membership consists of a diverse group of highly intelligent, highly dedicated women, and each of us brings something unique to the table. As productive members of the JLP community, we all ought to be prepared to ‘take the helm’ and assume a leadership role within the JLP when the time is right.

Being prepared can take many different forms. For some of you, it may be as simple as informing the Nominating Committee that you’re interested in, or at least willing to consider, current or future JLP leadership opportunities. For others, it may mean attending leadership trainings or diversifying your league experience to round out your skills before assuming a particular leadership role.

Regardless of your situation, the most important thing to do is to let us know you are interested. The Nominating Committee is here to help you chart your path to leadership, but if we do not know where you want to go, we cannot help you get there!

It is important to remember that JLP leadership provides an amazing opportunity for personal and professional growth, the benefits of which will stretch far beyond your League participation. For example, chairing a committee provides a member with valuable skills and experience in the following areas, just to name a few:

- Setting goals and strategic planning
- Leading and working in teams
- Communicating effectively
- Public speaking
- Running effective meetings
- Allocating resources (human, monetary, etc.) to achieve goals

By allowing you the opportunity to gain concrete leadership skills and experience, a JLP leadership position will prepare you to ‘take the helm’ at home, at work, and in the community at large.

If you are interested in learning more about the opportunities for JLP leadership, contact any member of the Nominating Committee (you can email us individually or at nominating@jlphiladelphia.org). Also, be sure to check the website for the upcoming Nominating Meet & Greet, as well as an upcoming training on the Path(s) to Leadership.

Congratulations...

Honey Tishgart recently gave birth to a daughter named Eliza Jane.

Creating a beautiful home doesn’t have to be complicated or costly. Simply Home takes the fear out of design and helps you transform your home – interior or exterior - with a few simple, inexpensive touches.

- Design and color consultation
- Space planning and room arrangement
- Home repairs/improvements
- Painting and faux finishing
- Window treatments and upholstery
- Landscaping and gardening

Jean Sauer
610.745.6645
Sustainer Chair’s Perspective—Giving Thanks

In November, we have an opportunity to celebrate the day we call Thanksgiving. Every day of the year, we are fortunate to have the opportunity to celebrate thankfulness. Do we not have so much for which to be thankful? It is wonderful how perspectives and experiences change our focus for giving thanks and how we can find thankfulness in all situations.

Thanksgiving is also a celebration of giving thanks for the harvest. The Junior League of Philadelphia, Inc. and the Sustainers plant seeds that are harvested. In our members, it includes providing training and opportunities for our women, which translate into bearing fruit in our community and to each other.

One way to show our thankfulness is through giving to others. The Sustainers are experts at that!

On September 12, Sustainers joined the Actives and Provisionals at the Provisional Kick-Off event. What a wonderful day it was to spend with these talented ladies. Thank you to Bobbie Cameron for setting this up for the Sustainers and for delivering a fabulous speech to the group. Part of the program included a bus tour and history of the JLP and Philadelphia, with the focus on Fairmount Park and a visit to the Water Works. Thank you to Bobbie, Cynthia Adams, Jean Alsentzer, Mary Anne Mackin, Judy Moneta, Sue Rice, Mary Tattersfield, and Terri Young for joining me as tour guides.

We had our first Sustainer Board meeting on September 16. I’d like to thank Janney Ryan, Laurie Etherington, Hazel Hurley, and Debbie Talbot Snyder for the wonderful venue at Janney’s home. The Sustainer Board and interest groups are busy ensuring all of the programs and events are running smoothly. We are thankful for them and for your participation.

Remember to get involved with the Sustainer Project with Judy Ruse, Marge Devlin, and the many other contributors who are making a difference. Thank you to Judy Ruse for sharing the Sustainer Project at the September General Membership Meeting. Thank you for your continued support of the JLP Active and Provisional projects, programs, and fundraisers including First Fridays at the Thrift Shop. It is very important for us to be involved as one League.

And we are thankful that Jean MacFadyen has volunteered to teach a computer course again this year. It is planned for Wednesday, January 13, 2010, at 1 p.m. at the Berwyn Easttown Library.

I also celebrate all who do what others call the “thankless jobs.” I want to rename them to the “very thankful jobs.” They are those “behind the scene,” “no publicity” women who do what it takes to get the job done for others.

Let us make every day Thanksgiving through giving thanks and by planting seeds.

With thankfulness for you and all that you do,

Pam

PS. The famous person referenced in my October Hotline article was Russell Conwell. Many people are thankful for him; he founded Temple College (now Temple University).

Sustainer Project Update

The Sustainer Project at the Paul Fly School is entering its final phase this year. The last efforts to leave a legacy for the students and staff dominate our activities this year.

Our primary goals this year are:
- Funding for more classroom smart boards
- Student clothing for Nurses boutique
- Books and magazines
- Classroom volunteers
- Networking with community groups to sustain our accomplishments

The wonderful generosity of the JLP members has sustained this project for the past three years. The Sustainer Project Committee needs everyone’s help this year as we head for our May 2010 departure. Please contact either Marge Devlin at tmdevlin159@comcast.net or Judy Ruse at jruse@verizon.net.

All efforts, large and small, will be tremendously appreciated.
Up-Coming Evening Sustainer Events

Sunday, November 8 – Princess Diana Exhibit, National Constitution Center
   Meet at 1 p.m.
   Final Check-in at 1:15 p.m.
   Freedom Rising & Exhibit 1:30 p.m.
   Group Rate: $18.00

In November, wait list or cancellation tickets may be available. Please call us if you are interested.

Tuesday, January 26 – Wilma Theater “Becky Shaw”
   6:30 p.m. curtain

December 31, 2009 – Deadline for Sustainers only with waiting list for guests.

January 10, 2010 – Deadline for Sustainers and guests

Refer to the Sustainer Mailing for details on all events.
Please call and send reservations & checks to Judy Moneta.
Contact us with your questions: Judy Moneta, (610) 658-6324,
Mary Hinds, (610) 544-2399

40 Something’s

Liz Stone and Susan Holmes invite the 40 Something’s group to a casual meeting on November 11, at 12 p.m. The meeting will be held at Susan’s house: 5 Meredith Circle, Thornton, PA 19373. We will discuss plans to coordinate a volunteer activity; we have a few options that have been presented to us. We will also plan social activities. We are looking forward to seeing you!
Please R.S.V.P. to Liz Stone at ecstone@comcast.net or (610) 359-8870 or Susan Holmes at susan.holmes@verizon.net or (610) 399-8713.

COMPUTER INSTRUCTION
Will help you buy it & then learn it in your own home (save time and gas!).
Topics of your choosing. Go at your own pace. Maybe give it as a gift!
Give me a call. League member.
Jean MacFadyen (610) 363-0245

Women Building Better Communities®
Upcoming Dates

November 7    Mural Dedication, Fernhill Park
November 8    Makeup and Mimosas at Saks Fifth Avenue
November 14   Dinner Fundraiser at Alison Two
November 15-21 Area Meetings
November 21   DIAD Thanksgiving Baskets at HELP Philadelphia
November 30   DIAD at MANNA
November 30   Kiehl’s Holiday Party
December 5    Longwood Gardens Tour
December 6    BOOST Camp Holiday Event
December 17   Provisional Large Group Meeting
January 9, 2010 Ski/Spa Day at Bear Creek Mountain
January 9, 2010 HIP Kids Event
February 20, 2010 The Big Deal Casino Night

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