

# HOTLINE

## Philadelphia

The Junior League of Philadelphia • Celebrating 97 Years of Volunteer Service: Looking Back and Moving Forward • December 2009

## The Greatest Gift of All

By Regina Raiford Babcock

Uplifting the spirits of young siblings of cancer patients, enriching science curriculum, and helping kids grow strawberries—these are just a few of the activities supported by League fundraising. Each year, the Grant Writing and Fund Development Committee supports vital JLP projects by seeking corporate sponsorships and foundation grants. This year, our efforts focus on several League projects, including the renovation of the JLP Headquarters, installation of the Campus Community Gardens, and supporting the activities of the RESPECT Nature Club, HIP Kids, and BOOST Camp committees.

In collaboration with The Wellness Community of Philadelphia, the BOOST Camp nurtures an underserved population. The HIP (Healthy Imaginative Playful) Kids Committee encourages outdoor play for Philadelphia youth. The Campus Community Gardens Committee is educating children about urban gardening and healthy eating. The RESPECT Nature Club Committee, with help from the Norristown Area School District and the Riverbend

Environmental Education Center, is implementing a supplemental science curriculum.

"We now plan to involve everyone in the community, parents, and children. In the end we want everyone to enjoy the garden so we were hoping that if we involve them at each step in the process they will have more ownership to the project," says **Christen Scalone**, Co-Chair, Campus Community Gardens Committee.

By building relationships with philanthropic organizations, the JLP can strengthen our community involvement with these programs.

You can be a successful part of the Grant Writing and Fund Development Committee's critical mission by investigating if your civic group, corporation, or family has ties to foundations that make charitable contributions to non-profit organizations. During this holiday season, give the greatest gift of all by helping the League and the Grant Writing and Fund Development Committee create personal connections with philanthropic organizations. When you think philanthropy, think about supporting the JLP community projects! 

## JLP Volunteers Prepare Nourishing Meals at MANNA

By Brenna Pellegrini

On Wednesday, September 2, ten active members gathered to volunteer three hours of their time to work in the MANNA kitchens. From packaging angel-food cake and apple crisp, to dishing out a variety of dietary specific orange chicken, the women had a chance to learn about the process, the organization, and how these meals were originally cooked in a simple kitchen basement.

MANNA's mission is to promote wellness through nutrition education and to help people suffering with life-threatening diseases improve their health and quality of life. MANNA prepares and delivers more than 65,000 delicious, nourishing meals, along with counsel and hope, to people living with HIV/AIDS, cancer, or other life-threatening illnesses and their families.

Brian, the chef on duty, expressed how impressed he was by our group after witnessing the members cutting up over 50 pounds of onions. He said, "unlike a number of other organizations that come in, your team really works." Even the Director of Volunteers and Resource Development, Rob Saxon, made a special note to extend his sincere appreciation and express his excitement to have us visit again on **January 25** and **March 29, 2010**. Please sign up through the JLP website. Contact **Brenna Pellegrini** with any questions, [brennapellegrini@yahoo.com](mailto:brennapellegrini@yahoo.com) or (570) 382-5033. 



The Junior League of Philadelphia, Inc. is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.

# President's Perspective

By Samantha Soldan

It's the most wonderful time of the year! And, I am not referring to the holidays. It's PAC season! The Project Advisory Committee (PAC) meets in November, January, and February to perform a thorough review of our community and fundraising projects. This is also where new projects are proposed and vetted. These meetings are open to all members (no, not for credit) and are a fantastic, eye-opening opportunity to get the scoop on all of our projects and truly understand the League's impact in the community. This year, Development Council Director, **Liz Kolb**, will lead PAC with support from the Project Research and Development (PRD) Committee. If you have ideas for new fundraising or community projects or suggested improvements for our current projects, please contact PRD chairs, **Anne Radecki** and **Libby Morgan**. We are interested in your ideas and your vision for the League!

In addition to PRD, two other committees, the Farm Fresh Festival and Grant Writing and Fund Development, are part of the Development Council. Grant writing is an important component of the League's diversified fundraising strategy and **Amy Piergiovanni** and her team are hard at work pursuing funding opportunities for our community projects and for the renovation of the building that houses our Thrift Shop and Headquarters. Our building is our most prominent face in the community and, as the Headquarters of an organization committed to developing community leaders, it is an integral part of the League's community outreach. The Farm Fresh Festival Committee was launched this year under the leadership of **Melissa Finnegan** and **Allison Lubert**. The Development Council will serve as an incubator for the Farm Fresh Festival Committee as they develop a business plan for the event and take the time and energy to ensure a successful launch of this new fundraiser. I am excited to see what this year's PAC season has in store for our organization. Happy Holidays! 🍷



Sam Soldan and Development Council Director, Liz Kolb

*Samantha S. Soldan*

## Celebrate a Winter Wonderland with HIP Kids!

By Lisa Gambino

Do you get the post holiday blues? How about you cheer up and participate with HIP Kids in a Winter Wonderland! The Junior League of Philadelphia, Inc. and SMITH The Kids' Play Place in the Park invite you to come and celebrate the joys of winter with fun indoor activities such as making snowflakes and snowmen at the SMITH playhouse! The event takes place on Saturday, **January 9, 2010** from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Located in historic Fairmount Park, SMITH The Kids' Play Place in the Park offers children 5 years old and under a safe and free place to play. The 24,000 square foot playhouse gives young children a place to "drive" the train, "cook" in the kitchen, and ride tricycles in Smithville. All children must be accompanied with an adult 18 years or older. Please visit <http://smithkidsplayplace.org> to learn more about SMITH The Kids' Play Place in the Park. For questions about this event, please contact **Emily Lambert** (804) 241-7873 or **Mary Peller** (215) 341-6279. 🍷

## Cheers! Introducing the JLPtini by Rembrandts

Serves 1, martini glass

2 ounces vodka

1 ounce watermelon liqueur

5 fresh mint leaves

Splash of club soda

Splash of grenadine

- In a shaker, muddle the mint and soda.
- Pour in all ingredients except the grenadine.
- Shake with ice and strain into a martini glass.
- Slowly pour a very small amount of grenadine down the side of the glass for color only.
- Garnish with mint leaf and serve.

## 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: Melissa Nichols

Office (610) 645-9696

Office Fax (610) 645-0996

[www.JLPhiladelphia.org](http://www.JLPhiladelphia.org)

JLP Thrift Shop (610) 896-8828

Hours: Monday – Saturday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Sunday 12 – 4 p.m.

# Unmask the Possibilities at Casino Night, February 20, 2010!

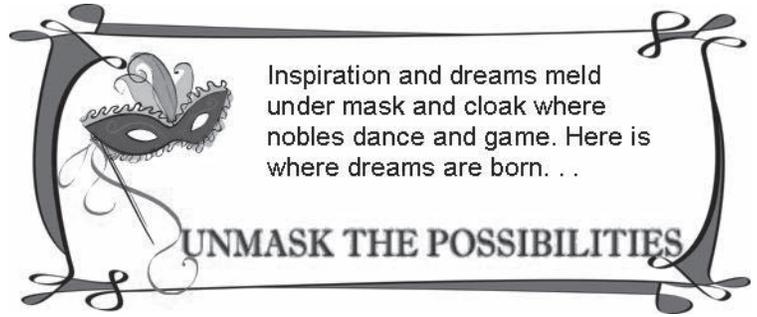
By Kerri Neil Storm and Jackie Strzepak

The Junior League of Philadelphia, Inc. will host its fourth annual Casino Night on Saturday, February 20, 2010, at 7 p.m. at the Sheraton Society Hill Hotel in Philadelphia. This year's theme is *The Big Deal Casino Night – Unmask the Possibilities*. The evening is black tie optional, and party-goers are encouraged to accessorize in keeping with the Mardi Gras theme.

The Casino Night Committee has been hard at work planning an evening of excitement that includes cocktail hour and gourmet dinner buffet, Las Vegas-style gambling, live and silent auctions, as well as plenty of drinks and fun to go around. The night will include an impressive assortment of auction items and prizes for our casino winners, including restaurant gift certificates, personal training sessions, wine tasting classes, overnight trips, and much, much more. Don't forget the fabulous swag bags for each guest that include themed items that you won't want to miss. We'd love to tell you our special guests, but we don't want to unmask too much of the fun just yet!

We hope that everyone – Provisionals, Active, Sustainers, and their friends and family- will join us for what will be an exciting and fun evening to support the JLP's various missions including Project GREEN. After raising over \$25,000 last year for the JLP and its projects, we are confident that this year we can build on that success.

Tickets are \$125 per person, which include the cocktail hour, buffet dinner, open bar, \$100 in casino chips, as well as a "Queen Swag Bag." VIP Tickets are also available for \$175 per person which include the cocktail hour, buffet dinner, open bar, \$300 in casino



chips, as well as a "King Swag Bag" and a few other VIP surprises to be unmasked at the event. Ways & Means credits are available to JLP members: 2 credits for a ticket or 3 credits for a VIP ticket.

The evening begins at 7 p.m. and runs until 11 p.m., but your night does not have to end there. Take advantage of the JLP special room block and spend the night at the Sheraton Society Hill Hotel for only \$129. Make sure to get your tickets early. The Big Deal Casino Night is sure to be a sell-out.

We are also looking for a few good sponsors! Any JLP member (with the exception of the Board or Casino Night Committee) who brings in a corporate sponsor will receive special benefits such as free tickets and upgrades.

What will you find at this year's Big Deal Casino Night? Where will the evening taking you? Are you ready to Unmask the Possibilities?

Questions? Silent Auction Donations? Contact the Casino Night Committee Chairs, Jackie Strzepak, [JStrzepak12@gmail.com](mailto:JStrzepak12@gmail.com) or Kerri Neil Storm, [kerrineil@gmail.com](mailto:kerrineil@gmail.com)

*Laissez les bon temps rouler!* (Let the good times roll!) 

---

## We have it all! Winter Social Events

By Adie Amey and Bertina Whytehead

Calling all Brides and Bridesmaids! The JLP is ready to help make your wedding dreams come true with a bridal fashion show at Priscilla of Boston's new Suburban Square location on [January 21](#), from the dress to the cake, we'll have it all.

Find out what happens *If You Give a Pig a Pancake* as the Walnut Street Kids Theatre brings this tale and other childhood favorites to life on [February 6](#), ticket sales continue until [December 16](#).

Didn't R.S.V.P. for any of the great events going on this winter? No worries you still have time. Sign up for the Longwood Gardens tour on [December 5](#), tickets sales continue until [December 2](#).

Sign-up for the Ski and Spa trip ends [December 6](#).

Be sure to R.S.V.P. online for all events, guests are welcome. 

---

## Congratulations!

Cathy Johnson welcomed Abigail Augusta on Sept 20, 2009

# Membership Corner

By Barb Hafner

Happy Holidays from the Placement Committee! While you are sitting back relaxing after all of your holiday parties, family visits, and opening those wonderful gifts, remember to make sure that you have a plan for completing your JLP requirements. Although members have until the end of May to complete requirements, members who have requirements completed by **April 30** have a better chance of obtaining their requested placement. If you have any questions or concerns do not hesitate to contact your advisor via email or phone. If you are unsure who your advisor is her name is listed on your website home page or you can contact the Placement Chair, **Barb Hafner** at [barbhaf@yahoo.com](mailto:barbhaf@yahoo.com) or (267) 467-0112. 

# Thrift Shop Update

By Patty Franks

The Shop has been beautifully decorated for the holidays courtesy of a joint effort between the Building Committee and the Thrift Shop Committee. This year we have lovely decorations on the outside of the Shop as well.



As we are slowly regaining our space taken by the contractors, our sales are increasing. We are trying to rebuild our furniture inventory, which suffered during the summer construction. We would love to have some donations of furniture in good condition and also new items or jewelry suitable for holiday presents.

Remember to stop by First Fridays at the Thrift Shop, which are held every First Friday of the month through June. On First Fridays, the shop is open late until 9 p.m. with wine tasting and light snacks. It is a great time to socialize with friends and League members, as well as take a stroll around Ardmore, which offers live music and shopping specials.

Our holiday hours are:

Closed **December 24** through **December 27, 2009**

Closed at 3 p.m. on **December 31, 2009**

Closed **January 1, 2010** and **January 3, 2010**;

Open **January 2, 2010**

The Shop will be open extended hours (12-5 p.m.) on the following Sundays in December: **December 6, 13, and 20, 2009.** 

# JLP Volunteers Sort and Pack (literally) Tons of Food

By Lauren Steines

On October 3, the DIAD committee hosted an event at Philabundance in Philadelphia. Philabundance is a non-profit organization whose mission is to relieve hunger and malnutrition in the Delaware Valley. They accomplish this by acquiring food and distributing it to those in need throughout the community. On this autumn Saturday, there were nineteen wonderful JLP volunteers who sorted and boxed an amazing 27,000 pounds of food in just three hours. (This is more than twice the amount of food sorted during a typical work day!) Top 20s music was pumping throughout the warehouse, and some girls even had a chance to bust a move with their boxes and cans. Thanks so much to everyone who came out and participated! If you would like to find out more about the Philabundance mission or would like to make a donation to this cause, please visit: [www.philabundance.org](http://www.philabundance.org). We hope to see you all at the next Philabundance event which will be held on **Saturday, February 27** at 12:30 p.m. in Philadelphia. 





# Sustainer News

By Pam Maimone

## Sustainer Chair's Perspective—Celebrate our Gifts

At this time of the year, we are busy finding gifts for family, friends, and for those we might not even know but who are in need. We also have the gifts of December that come in the form of celebrations and customs. They are not wrapped up in ribbons and bows but in memories and hope.

Each of you has many gifts which you demonstrate to each other, the JLP, and to the community. These include your time, compassion, organizational skills, commitment, and talent. How privileged we are to be able to contribute our different gifts.

I was fortunate to attend a Cooking Klatch luncheon in October, and they shared their gifts of fine cuisine and hospitality. They also use their gift of giving to those less fortunate during this season.

The Larks share their gift of music. In late October they sang at Sunrise in Paoli as part of a JLP Done in a Day project. It is wonderful how the Garden Club members use their gifts for community and holiday outreach programs. Their work, with others, continues with Campus Community Gardens.

As one of our former first ladies said, "Giving frees us from the familiar territory of our own needs by opening our mind to the unexplained worlds occupied by the needs of others." The Sustainer and JLP projects we participate in give us this opportunity. Thank you to **Marilyn Sprague** for using her gifts with the JLP Community Council, and thank you to all sustainers who participated in the Fernhill Park clean up and mural painting this Fall. This was organized by the Green Volunteer Corps Committee. They foster

the JLP's continued relationship with Fairmount Park through organizing projects and training opportunities that focus on areas such as parks, the environment, community environs, and waterways.

I hope that many of you are enjoying the gift of friendship through the many interest groups and events. Many of us have participated in the Evening Sustainer opportunities, the Theater Trip, and the Fall Membership meeting. We thank all who give their gifts of time and creative energy to plan these for us.

**Annamarie Hellebusch** and **Debra Vozzo** are busy planning the Sustainer Teas which are **February 4, 2010**. They will be at various times and venues and will provide the gift of warmth in the middle of the winter. The Evening Sustainers continue to have a full schedule, so please join us.

Sustainers Aboard has been busy planning a trip for May 2010, so look for the details from **Schuy Wood** and **Jean Alzentzer** and share in the gift of exploration. You will see our activities and events in the *Hotline*, eblasts, and the Sustainer mailer that is planned for early January.

Continue to use your incredible gifts in the many opportunities that we have.

Enjoy the gifts of the season, and celebrate all that you give.

*Pam*

---

## Sustainer Community Service Project Update: The Power of Recycled Books

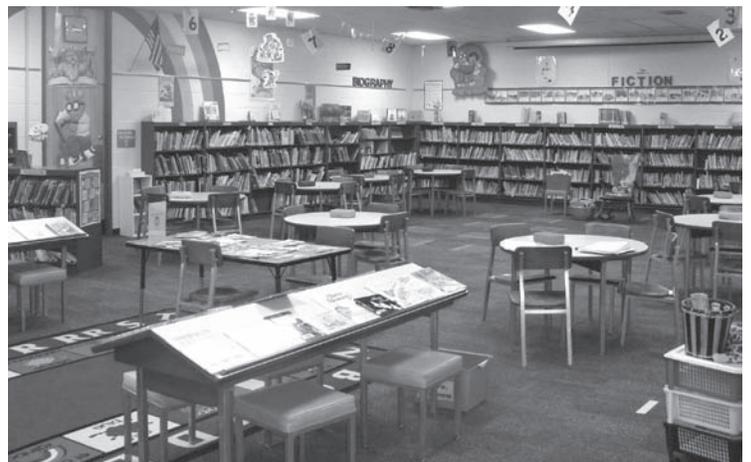
By Judy Ruse

During my first visit to the Paul Fly Elementary School, I was given a school tour that included a stop in the school library. I was immediately stunned at the sparse number of books on the shelves. When I inquired about the lack of books, I was told that the school district ceased library funding due to school budget restraints. Each school principal would decide any library funding and would take the funding from the school's general budget. The budget demands were great while finances were limited.

Today, when you enter the Paul Fly Elementary School library, the shelves are full of colorful, appealing books. This is due to the wonderful book donations sent by the JLP Sustainers. It is not easy to collect over 20,000 children's books. In fact, it is often tiresome. However, our volunteers are given a wonderful reward when they see the results.

One of the primary goals of elementary teachers is to establish a strong base in student reading and writing skills. Young children must have access to a variety of books across many genres. Many of these students come from homes where there are no books available and local public libraries are not used. Therefore, the teachers must work double time to adjust for this.

On a visit to this school today, you will see children's books everywhere – in the library, in every classroom, in offices, and in bookcases scattered throughout the school. The students are allowed to select a few books to keep at home before the summer vacation. Our book donations are positively impacting both the students' school and home life. Again – the power of volunteering is mighty. **JL**



# JLP's Centennial is Quickly Approaching!

By Betsy Mallon

2012 marks the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Junior League of Philadelphia, Inc. We plan on celebrating in style! A variety of projects and events are being planned throughout the 2011-2012 year. This will include a retrospective/museum exhibit and a speaker series reflecting the JLP's impact on Philadelphia and its surrounding communities over the past 100 years; a community project with a lasting legacy; and a gala event which will be held on Saturday **April 14, 2012** at the Please Touch Museum in Fairmount Park.

**Sustainer help is needed!!!** We know there are members out there who never throw anything away – including JLP “stuff.” Do you have annual reports, brochures, news articles, photos, or “props” from past projects tucked away in your attic or basement? We need them! A small group of Actives and Sustainers will be creating a retrospective/museum exhibit and we would like to include as much memorabilia as possible. We will come to your home and help you dig out the treasures, we will gently make copies if you prefer not to part with the originals while in the exhibit, and we will catalog each item to assure its safe return to its owners – whatever it takes!

Please contact **Betsy Mallon** at (610) 764-6790 or [bmallon@keystonerisk.com](mailto:bmallon@keystonerisk.com) if you have something to contribute. We will also be contacting some of you (you know who you are!) who we know have treasures to share.

We greatly appreciate your support and participation in our upcoming centennial. With your help we can really make this a fabulous celebration to remember for the next 100 years! **JL**

## Afternoon Brush-up Bridge

Afternoon Brush-up Bridge is held the first Monday and third Thursday, 1-4 p.m., of each month. Call the individual hostess if interested in playing.

### DECEMBER

7 - Afternoon Bridge, **Nancy Henry**, (610) 408-8525

17 - Afternoon Bridge, **Annabel Wilson**, (610) 688-7816

### JANUARY

4 - Afternoon Bridge, **Bonnie Hamm**, (610) 356-4277

21 - Afternoon Bridge, **Ann Vaughan**, (610) 293-0870

### FEBRUARY

1 - Afternoon Bridge, **Jean Murdock**, (610) 642-7283

18 - Afternoon Bridge, **Sue O'Brien**, (610) 382-9246

## Sustainer Computer Training Email Intrigue: Figuring Out the Annoying Problems!

Learn to understand how email systems work so you can solve your own questions (email your questions ahead of time!)

**Wednesday, January 13, 2010** 1-3 p.m. (bring your laptop if you like)

Easttown Library, Arronson Room, 720 First Ave, Berwyn, PA  
(610) 644-0137

\$5/person (helps defray the cost of the room)

Makes check out to JLP, Inc. Send to **Jean MacFadyen**, 1426 Redwood Court, West Chester, PA 19380

R.S.V.P. by **January 1, 2010** to **Jean MacFadyen** (610-363-0245)  
[macflearn@verizon.net](mailto:macflearn@verizon.net)

## Sustainers Aboard

Danube River trip planned for **May 1, 2010**, sailing from Budapest to Nuremberg, Germany on an eight-day Viking cruise. Price includes airfare --\$3,321.00 or \$3,791.00, depending on the cabin. We must have your \$500.00 deposit by **December 10, 2009** to keep the price.

Contact **Schuy Wood** at (215) 836-7735 or [bsdw@att.net](mailto:bsdw@att.net) or **Jean Alsentzer**, (215) 242-9217 or [Aljean3@comcast.net](mailto:Aljean3@comcast.net). There is limited space available so please contact us as soon as possible. **JL**

## Upcoming Evening Sustainer Events

**Wednesday, January 6** – Annual Post Christmas White Elephant Event

**Tuesday, January 26** – **Becky Shaw** at the Wilma Theater  
6:30 p.m. curtain

Reservation Deadlines:

**December 31, 2009** - for Sustainers only with Waiting List for guests.

**January 10, 2010** – for Sustainers and guests

Refer to the Sustainer Mailing for details on all events. Please call, email and send reservations and checks to **Judy Moneta**.

Contact us with your questions:

**Judy Moneta** (610) 658-6324

**Mary Hinds** (610) 544-2399

## Bookmarks

Bookmarks does not meet in December, but please do look ahead to **January 21, 2010** by reading Jon Meacham's *American Lion*, a lively history of the White House years of our seventh president, Andrew Jackson; Indian fighter and banking author. The evening includes a soup and bread supper at the home of **Marianne McClatchy**. To R.S.V.P. and for more information, call or email Marianne at [mamclatchy@verizon.net](mailto:mamclatchy@verizon.net) or (610) 355-1976 or **Karen Miller** at [kmsmiller@aol.com](mailto:kmsmiller@aol.com) or (610) 647-4287. Everyone is welcome! **JL**



WINTERTHUR



# Yuletide

---

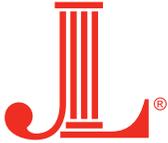
## AT WINTERTHUR

**OPEN DAILY FOR HOLIDAY TOURS  
NOVEMBER 21–JANUARY 3**

For more information and a full schedule of special events,  
call 800.448.3883 or visit [winterthur.org](http://winterthur.org).

Open daily, including New Year's Day. Closed Thanksgiving and Christmas Day.

**WINTERTHUR MUSEUM & COUNTRY ESTATE**  
Nestled in Delaware's beautiful Brandywine Valley  
on Route 52, between I-95 and Route 1



The Junior League of Philadelphia, Inc  
27 West Lancaster Avenue  
Ardmore, PA 19003

Return Service Requested

## Hotline Deadlines

February issue: *December 20*

March issue: *January 25*

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](mailto: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 ¼ page ads, \$125 for ½ 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

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
January 25, 2010	DIAD at MANNA
February 4, 2010	Cocktails & Cards
February 6, 2010	<i>If You Give a Pig a Pancake</i> , Walnut Street Theatre
February 20, 2010	The Big Deal Casino Night
February 27, 2010	DIAD at Philabundance

More details about all of these events and more can be found on the JLP website calendar: [www.JLPhiladelphia.org](http://www.JLPhiladelphia.org).

### 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.