Dear JLP Members,

Thank you for a wonderful 2017-2018 League year and wishing you a wonderful summer!

At the end of every year, we look back at our tangible accomplishments and this year is no different. I am happy to report the renovations of the Thrift Shop are well under way. The project’s anticipated completion is August 2018.

The Apple A Day Healthy Living Initiative’s focus on hunger and food insecurity is still relevant. Our impact on the community continues to increase. The Empowering You Health Fair added a second health fair at the Community Center of Visitation, one of our Centennial Grant awardees. The committee expects to host another health fair again next year. Our Kids in the Kitchen Committee added programs that increased the amount of children served by threefold. I am proud that we were able to continue the current collaborations and build new relationships.

Member opportunities for training and direct community service were many. The Done In A Day Committee organized fall and spring Service Days, as well as numerous other opportunities throughout our area to perform direct service. Whether clearing a garden or packing food boxes, there were many moments to see the need for our work in the community. Our Education & Volunteer Training Committee not only organized our General Membership Meetings, but hosted trainings on a variety of topics such as nutrition education, home buying, household budgeting, women’s health, and nonprofit board governance. I am pleased that we could offer so many choices. Let’s also not forget the Social Committee, which kept members energized through fun activities! Whether it was dinner, wine tasting, or a night out on the town, this group put together a full calendar of social events for our members.

It was a privilege and pleasure to serve as your President for the 2017-2018 League year. A huge amount of thanks go to the 2017-2018 Board of Directors for serving with me. These remarkable women provided thoughtful feedback and support throughout my term. We are fortunate to have some of these women continuing to lead us. I am very excited that for the next two years, we have Meredith Nissen, President 2018-2019 and Shauna Itri, President 2019-2020. I cannot wait to see where they will take us on our JLP journey!

“Let us make our future now, and let us make our dreams tomorrow’s reality.”

Malala Yousafzai

Mary E. Peller
President, 2017-2018
president@jlphiladelphia.org
NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: MAURA KENNEDY

What led you to join the JLP?
As the only daughter with three brothers growing up in a conservative Catholic family, I learned at a young age the importance of empowering women. In a patriarchal community, it is not always easy to find people or organizations that work to promote women as a part of its core mission. When I discovered the Junior League of Philadelphia last year, I felt an immediate connection. Like JLP’s mission to “develop the potential of women, and improve the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers”, I too am a passionate advocate for gender equity. Now more than ever, it is important for women to stand up, have a seat at the table, be a part of the conversations, and be a strong voice in leadership roles.

What is your day job?
For eight years, I worked as a television news anchor/reporter for CBS and ABC news affiliates in Colorado, Georgia, Providence, and Boston. I reported live on the Boston Marathon bombing, Sandy Hook Elementary shooting, and the exclusive viral “Midway Lemonade Stand Shut Down” story. My favorite interviews were with former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and Senator John McCain. While I am no longer a television news reporter, I still work in media and love creating digital content on multimedia platforms. I also lead the social media team for Philadelphia’s Head of the Schuylkill Regatta, producing video and content for 8,000+ rowers and spectators. The crew regatta, my job, and the JLP all allow me to live out my passions every day.

Favorite thing to do in Philly?
My favorite thing to do in Philly is row on the Schuylkill River at 5:30 a.m. I am being serious! I love watching the sunrise over the city skyline while rowing out of a national historic landmark boathouse in one of the most prestigious rowing communities in America. Every time I row on that river, I am reminded how rare and special of an experience it is. As a member of University Barge Club, I get to see many sunrises and sunsets from the historic Boathouse Row, and it never gets old.

If you had an extra eight hours in a day what would you do with it?
Walk the entire city of Philadelphia and discover every amazing street, restaurant, museum, historic building, nook and cranny there is. While I grew up in South Jersey, I never properly explored Philly until I moved here last year. With work taking me all over the country, this is the first time I am experiencing this great city. I feel a bit touristy at times, but many people live most of their lives in one place and never really experience all there is to offer, taking it for granted. I was that person growing up in South Jersey. Now, my social media platforms are filled with #whyilovephilly posts.

In your opinion what is the best thing about being a JLP member?
The best thing about being a Junior League member is its historical impact and how it continues to shape women

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NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT  Continued from Page 2

and their lives today. When I first joined, I did a little digging and research on the League, reading that “the Junior League offered training to prepare women to vote in 1920.” Right then I knew that I had an incredible opportunity to help other women and make a historic impact in the community, just like the very first Junior League members. Hopefully our good works and deeds will be written in history books for members to read 100+ years from now.

What do you want other people to know about JLP?
The Junior League gives women a unique platform to make forever friends, go to amazing events, and experience a deeper connection with the community. However, JLP goes even deeper. It builds members’ leadership skills through training and effective action. It is rare that an organization’s mission, vision, and values are dedicated to that. We should not only applaud the work of our members, but also inspire others to do the same.

Favorite JLP memory?
The Night at the Museum in March is my favorite JLP memory yet. I had never been to the Philadelphia History Museum and so many great people were at the event. Our tour guide was very passionate about Philadelphia history and the museum. It made for a memorable night. Something that is not a past memory, but very memorable, are the bonds I have made with JLP women. Whatever the event, I always leave with a smile on my face, looking forward to the next one. Friendships that form between members are genuine and authentic.

HANGER AWARDS FOR
2017-2018 LEAGUE YEAR

Many thanks to our Hanger Award recipients who have made in-kind donations to the Thrift Shop in the following amounts.

Diamond Hanger Award
($3,000 or more)
Lisa Carosella
Ashley Carroll
Elisabeth Ilca
Laura Lazewski
Katie Tonneman

Platinum Hanger Award
($2,000-$2,999)
Lauren Anglum
Louesa Huf
Nina Lawall
Nikki Lynne Stephanou
Desiree Wayne

Golden Hanger Award
($1,000-$1,999)
Katie Adams Schaeffer
Laura Bahnck
Jennifer Bravo
Taylor Broadley
Jill Bronner
Kelli Brown
Natalie Caldwell
Kristin Caltabiano
Ashley Chiaradio
Nyreee Ellison
Natalie Finn
Jennifer Hanson
Katharine Koob
Jill Krey
Kristin Lytle
Maria Mancuso
Elizabeth Moyer
Mary Peller
Linda Riter
Stefanie Robinson
Rachel Scarlata
Jacqueline Silva Steuer
Elizabeth Tanner
Laura Turner
Devon Alexandra Winter

ANNUAL MEETING
AND PLACEMENT FAIR

By: Melissa Page Peter

The Annual Meeting and Placement Fair took place on April 12, 2018 at the Union League of Philadelphia. At the Placement Fair, members mingled and met representatives from various committees to learn about the opportunities and responsibilities associated with each of the committees so that the members could make informed decisions about which committee to join in the 2018-2019 League year.

At the Annual Meeting, after a welcome by President Mary Peller, members got down to business. Parliamentarian Shauna Itri-Miller provided a parliamentary procedure overview for members, and then League leaders presented various slates for members’ consideration and vote. Lauren Zabel, Director of Development, proposed the 2018-2019 Community Project Slate and Fundraising Project Slate. Next, Victoria Cox, the Chair of the Nominating Committee presented the three Leadership Slates, including the slates for the Board of Directors, Management Council, and Nominating Committee. After the presentation of the 2018-2019 League budget by Treasurer Katarina Sweeney and a few final announcements, the Annual Meeting was adjourned.

Both the Placement Fair and the Annual Meeting were well attended and members had a fabulous time mingling and learning more about the exciting opportunities and projects to come in the 2018-2019 League year. A huge thank-you to the EVT Committee for their hard work in planning this wonderful event!

Celebrating a fabulous member milestone?

New Job  •  Birth of a Baby  •  Wedding Celebration  •  Awards
We want to celebrate with you! Publish an announcement in the next Hotline. Please email hotline@jlphiladelphia.org
JLP PROMOTES EVERYDAY HEALTH AT
SIXTH ANNUAL EMPOWERING YOU HEALTH FAIR

By: Lauren Woehr

The Junior League of Philadelphia is proud to have hosted its sixth annual Empowering You Health Fair in partnership with Lankenau Medical Center on Saturday, April 7, 2018. This year’s focus was on everyday healthy living, with over 20 volunteer vendors representing fields from nutrition and disease prevention to mental health to physical safety. As in previous years, the Health Fair was free and open to the public.

One of the most popular events of the day was a presentation by Courtney Schoepe, MA, RD, LDN, who is a registered dietician with Giant. “I think the speaker was absolutely amazing,” said EYHF Committee Co-Chair Stefanie Robinson. “She did such a great job explaining nutrition and how to shop and read food labels, and we had a great turnout for her seminar.”

Nearly 50 people attended Ms. Schoepe’s lecture, which included an opportunity to ask specific questions. Overall, more than 75 families were in attendance at the event, which offered activities, individual professional information, and even “swag bags.”

Committee Co-Chairs Stephanie Lippencott and Stefanie Robinson shared their appreciation for the volunteers from the community and the JLP. “It’s also always nice to end the year of hard work together as a committee,” Stefanie said.

ANNUAL FUND RAISES MORE THAN $24,000

The Annual Fund Committee is thankful to the following donors for supporting the League. More than $24,000 was raised from 183 donors, primarily League members.

President’s Circle
($1,000 or more)
Kara Goodchild
Mary Peller

League Leader
($500-$999)
Susan Asplundh
Kimberley Brown
Alex Escher
Beth Gadsden
Susan Henley
Mary Hinds
Liz Kolb
Debra Marsteller
Ruth Nacey

League Advocate
($250-$499)
Jane Acton
Aronte Bennett
Jesy Brackett
Laura Buck
Erin Bushnell
Vicki Cox
Rose Cuozzo
Kate Davis
Julia DeMoss
Heike Doerr

Kathy Douglas
Sabina Ewing
Kate Hall
Sally Hillyer
Shanaa Itri
Nina Lawall
Mary Kate Lo Conte
Betsy Mallon
Beth McCarthy
Elizabeth Moyer
Katarina Sweeney
Michele Thackrah
Gita Young

League Partner
($100-$249)
Nancy Ahlum
Terry Allen
Carolyn Aller
Jean Alsentzer
Jeanne Andronowitz
Laura Bahneck
Kiara Benschop
Carolyln Berglund
Ana Biddle
Liz Blum
Samantha Bontemps
Lois Bortle
Kira Bryers
Meredith Carter

Linda Chase
Sue Clark
Sally Cooke
Betsy Daly
Phyllis Dirkes
Natalie Finn
Dodi Fordham
Kate Forester
Barbara Gasper
Betsy Gilpin
Dianne Giombetti
Ellie Good
Jillian Grennan
Kim Harrar

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The *Kids in the Kitchen* (KITK) program brought on two additional community partners this spring: After School All-Stars (ASAS) Philadelphia and Camden and Methodist Services. KITK connected with ASAS Philadelphia and Camden through one of their amazing committee members, Shaneka Boucher. ASAS Philadelphia and Camden is part of a national organization founded by Arnold Schwarzenegger, and partnering with ASAS Philadelphia and Camden allowed KITK to add schools in Camden. Previously, KITK only worked with schools in Philadelphia. In addition, the KITK program at ASAS included middle school students, a student population that KITK had not worked with in the past.

KITK also ran spring programming with Methodist Services, one of the League’s Centennial Grant awardees. Methodist Services provides after school programming in three locations and works with 185 children. This spring, KITK completed a three-week abbreviated program with Methodist Services, and Methodist Services will have a full six-week KITK program in the fall. They have a farm, Heritage Farm, on their West Philadelphia grounds, and KITK plans to incorporate vegetables and fruit grown there in the fall program.

KITK grew their traditional multi-week programs by adding these two partners, and they also planned and executed their first Saturday event! The KITK pop-up event took place on April 14 at the Village Preheim Center. The event was a partnership between the Village, Greener Partners Farm Explorer, and KITK. Over 65 children attended the event, and they had the opportunity to explore the FARM EXPLORER™ mobile garden and make a refreshing smoothie using the blender bike. KITK committee members made veggie tacos and snack bag butterflies with the children. They played “pass the food” and “marshmallow challenge.” The pop-up event gave the committee a chance to meet and interact with some of the children that participate in the program and to enjoy a gorgeous day outside together.

Overall, during the 2017-2018 League year, approximately 325 children took part in a KITK program. KITK worked with three community partners and eight different schools, and this yielded about 2,115 healthy meals and snacks to kids!
JEN TRAVAGLINI

Q: JLP members have taken notice of your expertise in managing the Thrift Shop. What is your background?

A: My previous career was in commercial finance. About eight years ago I entered the resell space and got involved with yard sales, pop-up sales, Facebook mom-to-mom groups, and re-selling personally. I even worked rehabbing and reselling American Girl dolls to fund my daughter’s collection.

Q: What does a typical day look like for you at the Thrift Shop?

A: No single day is like the next. I spend at least half of each day generating income from online sales and the rest of the time I focus on in-store merchandise. My work always begins before entering the shop. In the morning I pick up shopping bags from local stores to use in the Thrift Shop and work online with eBay sales, as well as the VIP JLP Facebook group. When I’m in the shop I organize overgrown areas and help wherever else I’m needed. I am never in one location for long.

Q: What are the busiest seasons at the Thrift Shop?

A: Back-to-school time through the holiday season.

Q: Is there a preferable season for making donations?

A: No, I encourage donations year-round, since turning over inventory keeps customers coming back.

Q: Are there any items that the Thrift Shop is in particular need of at this time?

A: Smaller items with higher price points such as jewelry, shoes, and clothing.

Q: What are the best treasure troves you’ve seen at the Thrift Shop?

A: This year’s “unicorn” was the Picasso piece. We also recently sold Hermès and Cartier items.

Q: Which types of items sell the quickest?

A: Ladies’ purses, shoes, handbags, clothing, and accessories.

Q: How much revenue has the Thrift Shop generated this past League year?


Q: What can customers expect after the upcoming Thrift Shop renovations?

A: Overall the Thrift Shop will be cleaner with a new floor and a fresh coat of paint. We will be able to better maximize our use of the space with added area to hang inventory.
SUSTAINER CHAIR’S PERSPECTIVE

I am so energized about the Junior League. I just returned from AJLI Annual Conference in Memphis. We, the Junior League of Philadelphia, are part of a strong, thriving, and impactful association. As women of the Junior League, we are offered amazing opportunities to engage in our communities, to participate in training events, and to support women and children. Our new tagline for AJLI is “Unstoppable,” and we are truly unstoppable.

It is my honor and privilege to serve as Sustainer Chair for the 2018-2019 League year. When I was President of the JLP in the 2001-2002 League year, my theme incorporated the idea that we are all artists who add color and dimension to the canvas of the JLP. As Sustainer Chair, I challenge each member to CELEBRATE our accomplishments in the past and now BUILD on our knowledge and experience. Let’s challenge ourselves to create better volunteer and training experiences, support one another, and enjoy the opportunities of Sustainer membership.

In an article quoting Monica Kaufman Pearson, a Junior League of Atlanta Sustainer, a 40-year member, she said, “I also learned that the Junior League was the way to prepare the next generation of female leadership. That’s when I said, “yeah this is where I want to be.” I echo her sentiments; this is where I want to be. Collectively, as Sustainers, we have the skills, the compassion, and knowledge to support our Active Members and fellow Sustainers to CELEBRATE our history and accolades and to help BUILD our future.

In closing, I want to thank Jeannette Schlegel for her wonderful leadership and kindness this year. We have enjoyed great lunches and chats about the JLP.

May you all find time to CELEBRATE with family and friends this summer! Thank you for your commitment to the Junior League of Philadelphia.

Cheers to a great year!!

Warmly,

Annamarie Geppert Hellebusch
Sustainer Chair, 2018-2019

SPRING MEETING BRINGS 2017-2018 SUSTAINER LEADERSHIP COUNCIL SEASON TO A CLOSE

By: Margaret Patches

The Sustainer Leadership Council gathered for its last meeting of the 2017-2018 calendar year, where gifts and gratitude were exchanged. Many thanks go out to Jeanette Schlegel for her wonderful, engaged leadership this year. And welcome to Annamarie Hellebusch, incoming Sustainer Chair! Looking forward to another wonderful year.

SUSTAINERS TRAVEL TO VIRGINIA

By: Margaret Patches

Led by Sustainer Travel Chair Joan Prewitt, a group of Sustainers spent several days in Virginia exploring America’s Historic Triangle: Jamestown, Yorktown, and Williamsburg this April. They walked the path of freedom, while enjoying everything the area has to offer. Thanks to Joan for all of her planning! It was a fabulous trip.

SUSTAINERS WELCOME SPRING WITH SERIES OF TEA SOCIALS

By: Margaret Patches

With spring slow to arrive this year, Sustainers enjoyed each other’s company at several Tea Socials in April. Many thanks to Great Estate Consignment, Dunwoody Village, and Ellie Boutique for hosting these wonderful events.
ANNUAL FUND  Continued from Page 4

Judy Hellekson  Halley Hetrick  Priscilla Holleran  Lauren Homel  Louise Huber  Kathy Hutchinson  Meghan Ignatosky  Barbara Johnson  Natalie Kay  Jodi Kerr  Carol Konski  Cindy Landreth  Carole Martin  Pat Masters  Jillian McInerney  Nell Mecray  Betsy Morgan  Ginny Mulligan  Dorothy O'Donnell  Margie Patches  Barbara Pettit  Joan Prewitt  Judy Reinke  Susan Rice  Louisa Ridgway

Niki Robertson  Pat Rosenbaum  Nancy Schwab  Jane Scott  Dede Shafer  Tiffany Shaffer  Jacki Silva  Joan Spece  Marilyn Sprague  Kelly Steyn  Sally Swanson  Alex Tancredi  Susan Tepper  Joan Williams

Terrie Grainger  Molly Hartzell  Annamarie Hellebusch  Sherry Hoban  Renee Howell  Suzanne Kearney  Lisa Kreiling  Connie Lai  Marci Leveillee  Marnie Ludwig  Marianne McClatchy  Sharon McNamara  Susan Mease  Judy Moneta  Meredith Nissen  Chris Rother  Jacqui Rothera  Carrie Scheitrum  Phyllis Scott  Jamine Shechter, M.D.  Dianne Smith  Debbie Snyder  Sam Soldan  Kristin Thorkelson  Heidi Tirjan

Barbara Whalen  Lauren Zabel

League Friend  (up to $49)

Susan Arnold  Anna Basilio  Brittany Bonetti  Bryn Bowersock  Kelli Brown  Sarah Bush  Kate Clark  Vanessa Colley  Kim Dang  Alyssa Davis  Alyssa DiPasquale  Liz Downey  Agathe Ferri  Hillary Flouris  Lisa Gambino  Michelle Garell  Louise Hill  Louesa Huf  Barbara Juda  Nicole LaBletta