Happy New Year, Philly! From all of us at the Office of Special Events we hope that you had a lovely Holiday season and we wish you nothing but joy and prosperity in 2016! As we begin a new year, we get to reflect on all of the amazing moments that made 2015 such an extraordinary year for all of us and our great City. We are also given the chance to remember what is truly important in our lives and are able to begin a new year with resolutions to continue to grow and prosper. We’re looking forward to helping you coordinate and celebrate your best events this year!

New Years is always a fun-filled time in Philadelphia. The SugarHouse New Year’s Eve Fireworks on the Delaware Waterfront never disappoints the crowd, with a beautiful display of colors lighting the Philly sky. This year we were lucky enough to have not one, but two spectacular firework displays at 6 PM and Midnight!

The New Years Day Mummers Parade is a staple in Philadelphia tradition. Beautiful handmade suits, choreography and string band music fill Broad Street every year with laughter and fun for the entire family!
Hello faithful readers of The Monthly Special! Welcome to the new layout and design of our newsletter. We’re hoping that with the new style it will be more inviting and helpful with details about what’s going on in the events world.

As you know we have transitioned to a new administration with Jim Kenney as our new Mayor of Philadelphia. We’re very excited to be able to work with him and his team as we continue to move the event industry forward here in Philly. With the upcoming Philadelphia International Festival of Arts celebration happening in April, the Democratic National Convention in July and of course all of the other annual events, the office is sure to be non stop over the next year.

We have also been hard at work on a redesign of the Special Events Application to help us understand your needs when applying for the proper permits and equipment. It will feature some extended questions about the event as well as any additional applications from other departments necessary to permit your event. We are hoping to roll out the new application by the end of the first quarter of the year. Look for more updates on that in our February Issue.

Speaking of changing applications, the Streets Department has been hard at work moving their Equipment Placement Application, Festival Street Closure Application and Block Party Applications to an online format. Over the next few months they will be rolling out the new platform with an added online payment system as well. Please look for notices on our Twitter and Facebook pages as they move forward in that process. We will do our best to keep you updated on what has been completed and what is still in the works.

Lastly, our calendar of events on our website has undergone a major renovation as well. You can now find event details about Street Festivals, Parades, 5Ks & Walks associated with our office, and other events from partners such as Uwishunu and Philadelphia Parks & Recreation. They are all organized by color and hope this will be another way to gather details about road closures in relation to events here in the city.

Please notice our office change in address and we’ll see you in February!
To the left are just a few of the biggest events that we had in December. First pictured is Philly Native and Grammy-nominated RnB singer Jazmine Sullivan, who performed at the annual Tree Lighting Ceremony at City Hall. Below that we have scenes from the Bluecross RiverRink Winterfest, a holiday favorite, and the 116th Annual Army-Navy Classic at Lincoln Financial Field.

It may not have felt much like winter, weather-wise, but the holiday celebrations and events were endless in December! Christmas Village at Love Park is always a holiday favorite, filled with vendors from all over with a variety of gift ideas. We had our fair share of Tree Lighting Ceremonies from East Passyunk Ave to Franklin Square. Rittenhouse Square also held their annual Hanukkah Lighting Ceremony to end the Jewish holiday. We hope you had an amazing holiday season with your loved ones and a joyous beginning to 2016!
January 1st – 7th
2016 Mummers Parade – Route begins at City Hall and Ends at Broad & Washington Ave. (1/1)
AICP Winter Seminar – 100 S 45th St. (1/2)
Clover Market LLC Antique & Craft Market – 2300 Ranstead St. (1/30-1/31)

January 8th – 14th
Nothing Scheduled

January 15th – 21st
Nothing Scheduled

January 22nd – 31st
Clover Market LLC Antique & Craft Market – 2300 Ranstead St. (1/30-1/31)

“Tomorrow is the first blank page of a 365 page book. Write a good one.”
– Brad Paisley

For a full detailed list of events, please visit the Calendar on our website!

Special Fact of the Month:
The City of Philadelphia inaugurated its 99th Mayor of the City with the installation of Jim Kenney on January 4th.