

YWCA of Westmoreland County Mission Statement

We create opportunities for women and girls to lead purposeful lives and strive for a community that values diversity.

Our One Imperative

“To thrust our collective power towards the elimination of racism wherever it exists and by any means necessary.”

2010-2011 YWCA Board Members

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Diana Basick, Fiscal Manager
Dorie Fuchs, PA WORKWEAR
Betty Hammer, Development Director
Marae Johnston, Childcare Director
Gina McGrath, Technology Director
Maggie O’Leary, Literacy Program Director
Cathy Young, Thrift Shop Director

YWCA of WESTMORELAND COUNTY

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Holiday 2010

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insert: annual campaign envelope

ywca business hours:

Monday - Thursday: 9am-5pm & Friday: 9am-4pm

letter from the ywca director - day of giving

Members and Friends,

What a great opportunity for the YWCA and for the community! Please read about Westmoreland Gives and consider this new way to maximize your gift to the YWCA.

Westmoreland Day of Giving on December 1, 2010 will replace the YWCA Phone-a Thon Day for our Annual Giving campaign this year. The YWCA is excited to participate in this new program being launched by The Community Foundation of Westmoreland County. Of course, if you do not want to participate in this on-line Day of Giving, we will gratefully accept your annual gift to the YWCA the old fashioned way - check, cash or credit card! An envelope is included with this newsletter.

If you choose to make your donation through WestmorelandGives.org, The Community Foundation of Westmoreland County will complement your gift with matching funds. The entire process has been streamlined and all donation options are secure!

RULES FOR DAY OF GIVING 2010

- The matching period is December 1, 2010 at 12:00 a.m. Midnight to December 1, 2010 at 11:59 p.m. All contributions during this period will receive a portion of the matching dollars.
- GIFTS MUST BE MADE IN REAL TIME. GIFTS CANNOT BE MADE AHEAD OF December 1st TO COUNT TOWARD THE MATCHING FUNDS.
- Credit card gifts only (Visa or MasterCard).
- Minimum donation is \$25.

TAKE THESE STEPS TO MAKE AN IMPACT ON OUR ORGANIZATION

- Go to <http://www.westmorelandgives.org>
- Click on Day of Giving
- Click on Donate Now
- Enter your name, email and phone number in appropriate boxes.
- From the drop down box select The YWCA of Westmoreland County
- Enter in donation amount
- Enter your credit card information on the secure server and click "submit".

You can participate in the Day of Giving on December 1st in the privacy of your home or you are invited to come to the YWCA and we will help you. The YWCA Computer Center will be open to our donors on December 1st and staffed with our technology personnel to assist you through the process to assure that your personal information and gift are secure. **Feel free to stop in from 9am to 6pm on December 1st. We will have the coffee on and a few snacks for our supporters!**

Thanks so much for your endorsement. It is so important to us and so much appreciated. **Please share this information with your friends and family.** Call the YWCA if you have additional questions about the Day of Giving at 724.834.9390

Looks like December 1st could be a great day for the YWCA Annual Giving campaign this year!

Bonnie Lewis, Executive Director



POINT CLICK GIVE MAXIMIZE
12.1.10 | DAY OF GIVING

DONATE AT
westmorelandgives.org
The COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
of Westmoreland County
AFFILIATED WITH THE PITTSBURGH FOUNDATION

thrift shop



Winter will soon be in the area and the YWCA Thrift Shop is prepared for its arrival with plenty of hats, scarves, coats and sweaters! Winter consignment is being accepted now but always call first to make sure we are still accepting consignments. With over 1900 registered consignors, the work load fills up quickly. We are in need of volunteers to learn the consignment program and anyone interested should call the shop at 724-834-4339 or stop in for an application.

The Holiday kickoff is scheduled for November 8. It is always a great time to shop for party clothes, gifts and jewelry. And remember the store is open every Thursday evening until 7 p.m. The YWCA Thrift Shop Volunteer Holiday party is on Sunday, December 12 in the Founders' Room at the main office.

Dorie Fuchs, coordinator of PA WORKWEAR, wants to thank everyone for the generous donations of plus size clothing for her program. She now is in need of travel or motel soaps, shampoos, etc. Each client gets a little "goodies" bag to help make their transfer to the workforce easier. Women's steel toed shoes are also in demand. These items can be dropped off at the Thrift Shop, Monday through Saturday, 10 am. until 4 pm.

Schedule Through January 2011

October 4, 2010.....Winter Consignment Started
Dec. 23 - Jan 2, 2011.....Holiday Break
January 3, 2011.....Shop Reopens

united way campaign

The YWCA is supported by the United Way and this important income helps us to provide many programs and services to the community. Please consider directing your United Way contribution to the Community Impact Fund or to the YWCA of Westmoreland County. **The YWCA's United Way donor designation number is 1272.**

save the dates

Preschool Open House
November 3, 2010

Holiday Craft Show
November 20, 2010

"Day of Giving"
December 1, 2010

President's Luncheon
December 3, 2010

Hanging of the Greens
December 8, 2010

December 21 & 22, 2010
Preschool Holiday Programs

Mardi Gras
March 8, 2011

Sportswomen of the Year Award Banquet
April 7, 2011

child development

The YWCA 2010-11 preschool year is already in full swing. We welcomed both some new and familiar faces this year into the 3 and 4 year old preschool programs. September's lessons allowed the children time to get to know each other, to learn about families, and even find out more about themselves. These lessons about self and family took our preschoolers right into October where they broadened their horizons by learning about their "community." Along with the "ABC's" and "123's," the children are learning about diversity in the classroom, at home, and in the community. The children were visited by our own Maintenance Director and Volunteer Firefighter, Matthew Kolbosky, who discussed the importance of Fire Safety and was kind enough to let the children take home their very own fire hats. On November 3rd the YWCA preschool doors are open to the parents so that they will have the opportunity to come into the classroom and see what the children have been learning over the past two months. With the start of November, we get closer to the holidays and that means taking time out of the busy preschool schedule to prepare for the Holiday Programs which will be held on December 21st and 22nd. The holiday season at the YWCA is more than just songs and crafts though; it is taking the time to discuss the true meaning behind the holidays, the many different traditions, and the various ways people celebrate. It is hard to believe that we are already nearing the holidays, and before we know it we will be looking ahead to new beginnings in 2011.

The latest YWCA childcare program "Ready 2 Play" which is designed for 2 year olds will begin in March. The program offers younger children the opportunity to socialize and have fun with other children their age. It is a great way to get prepared for preschool or just to get out and connect with other children and parents. You may enroll your child in our programs anytime, space permitting.



technology center

All NEW Computers!

New classes offered include Windows 7, Microsoft Office Suite 2010 (including Word, Excel, Power-Point, Publisher, Outlook and Access). Take a class to become familiar with the "new look" of these programs and also a lot of the new features! Also new is our Facebook class. Learn how to set up and use a personal Facebook account. One of your favorite classes is back, the Holiday Class. Take this fun class to create gift tags, labels, greeting cards, magnets and much more! You can personalize these items with your photos.

The current Computer Class Schedule is available online at www.ywcawestmoreland.org.

Over 50 Computer Club

The **Over 50 Computer Club** meets the first Tuesday of each month from 2:00 to 3:30pm. Join us in a relaxed atmosphere and get answers to your computer questions. Registration is required.

TechGYRLS

Our TechGYRLS are busy preparing for the robotics 2010 Body Forward™ Challenge held at Carnegie Mellon's National Robotics Engineering Center on December 4th. This challenge will explore the cutting-edge world of Biomedical Engineering to discover innovative ways to repair injuries, overcome genetic predispositions, and maximize the body's potential, with the intended purpose of leading happier and healthier lives.

This year a team from Yough Middle School, coached by Mrs. Gail Burkett, and a team from Ligonier Valley Middle School, coached by Mrs. Lynn Adamerovich, will be competing. Good luck to our teams!

The 2011 Computer Class Schedule will be published in our next newsletter.

health & wellness

RED CROSS BABYSITTING CLASS

Open to girls and boys, ages 11 and above. All materials will be provided. Learn how to be a responsible babysitter and receive a certificate of participation from the Red Cross. Bring a bagged lunch. Limited number of spaces available. Class includes CPR. Facilitator: American Red Cross

Saturday : December 4, 2010
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
\$55 per person

HATHA YOGA with Christine Walko

This class is open to all ages 8 to adult. Breathing techniques and basic yoga postures will help to build flexibility, ease and range of motion. Holding postures will increase your stamina, strength and focus. Each student works at their own comfort level. Join the fun!

6 Thursdays
October 28- December 9
(No class November 25)
7:00-8:00 PM
Class Fee: \$45+ YWCA Membership

Little Ninja's Preschool Karate with Marisa

This program is designed specifically to help teach boys and girls, ages 4-5, the important qualities of respect, self-control, focus and confidence.

Kid's Power Karate

Boys and girls, ages 6-12, learn discipline, fun and self-defense.

Little Ninjas:
5:00-5:30 PM \$35
Kids Power:
5:45-6:30pm \$40
Call for starting dates

Private T'ai Chi lessons and Reiki (energy balancing) sessions available by appointment.

YOGA IN THE MORNING with Nancy Michaels

Make new friends while learning yoga. This class will help you build flexibility, inner core strength and improve your health. Basic yoga postures and breathing techniques will be emphasized in this class.

6 Thursdays:
October 14- November 18 (ongoing)
10:00 - 11:30 AM
\$45 + YWCA Membership

BEGINNING TAI CHI with Linda Vucelich

This class is intended for those who have never taken Tai Chi or who have some experience with Tai Chi.

2 Tuesdays:
November 30 & December 7
7:00 - 8:00 PM
Fee: \$22 + YWCA Membership

CONTINUING TAI CHI with Linda Vucelich

This class is designed for experienced Tai Chi students looking to continue their practice.

2 Tuesdays:
December 7 & December 14
7:00 - 8:00 PM
Fee: \$22 + YWCA Membership

INTERMEDIATE TAI CHI with Linda Vucelich

Maintain your physical and mental health. Beginning Tai Chi or experience prerequisite.

Late Fall Session:
4 Mondays:
November 8, 15, 22, 29
6:45 - 7:45 PM
Fee: \$44 + YWCA Membership

Holiday Session:
1 Tuesday: December 7 @ 7:00 - 8:00 PM
1 Monday: December 13 @ 6:45 - 7:45 PM
Fee: \$22+ YWCA Membership

social scene



United Way “Day of Caring”

Volunteers from United Way and First Commonwealth Bank traded in their suits and “spikes” for tee shirts and “tennies”. The ballroom and play area in the basement of the YWCA received a facelift thanks to our volunteers! Fresh paint and a good cleaning brightened these areas and provided us with extra space for new programs. The grounds of the YWCA also received some landscaping and pruning. We are so grateful for our United Way Day of Caring Volunteers!

The YWCA’s International Women’s Group

The International Women’s Group welcomes women of all nationalities to Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. The International Women’s Group provides a meeting place for women to meet each other and develop friendships, to share and learn about the United States (particularly the new area in which they are living), improve their English and become a part of their new community. Our International Women’s Group meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 12:30 PM in the YWCA mansion.

This year’s **“Hanging of the Greens”** will be held on December 8, 2010. We welcome women of all nationalities to attend this lovely event.

YWCA DIVAS

The YWCA Red Hat Divas recently chose to become the **YWCA DIVAS**. The group continues as a social group for women and is open to all YWCA members. The next meeting will be on October 29th at Lakeview Lounge for their annual Halloween luncheon at 11:45 am. The cost is \$12.95 plus tax and tip. It will be a buffet with drinks and dessert included. Reservations are required so please call the YWCA at 724-834-9390 before Tuesday, October 26th to let us know if you are coming.



On November 11, 2010 the Divas will join Saige Jen Taylor for a relaxing afternoon tea at 12:00 noon and enjoy the delicacies of Maddi & Co. Cost is \$16.50 per person which includes tax and tip. Seating is limited to 22 people. Call the YWCA for additional information.

Become a member of the YWCA!

\$20 - Basic Member/Associate
\$10 - Teen/Associate
\$30 - Supporting Member

\$50 Patron Member
\$100 - Century Friend Member
\$200+ - Honor Circle Member

girls in pearls



This year's fashion show featured a new look, "Girls in Pearls", a *Black & White Night*, on August 23, 2010. The Greensburg Garden & Civic Center provided a lovely setting for the evening. Guests wearing their pearls arrived dressed black and white. All enjoyed Bellini's & Berries, dinner, music and a fashion show. Our models displayed clothing from the YWCA Thrift Shop and Macy's in Greensburg, and wore accessories from Morninglory in Murrysville. Congratulations Chairwoman Theresa Rusbosin and committee members for hosting this delightful, sold out event to support the YWCA.

spotlight on volunteer-Keith Neill

WhenehwasyIraenthirteenymrehtorbjebtoghismrabadlynekorbatehtelbow*

Did you have trouble with the first sentence? There were no white spaces between the words and every other word is reversed. Now you have the idea.

Because someone taught you to read, you are able to comprehend the rest of the story. When you were young someone taught you the code that would help give meaning to the combination of letters that make up words: therefore you can read. Just imagine if you couldn't do this. Through the YWCA Literacy program, we teach people to use the code. We call it reading instruction.

I taught one adult to read before I started with the Literacy Council. I wasn't really successful, even though I'd taught a lot of children to read. Teaching an adult who has failed at reading is a far different challenge than teaching a child.



The YWCA Literacy training that I completed in 1990 gave me the plan and the process that works. The job became much easier after taking the Laubach training at the YWCA. I taught two non-reading adults to get meaning from the printed word. Both of these gentlemen had been productive citizens who because of an accident could no longer toil at their labor jobs. Testing for retraining indicated that they could not read. They hadn't needed to read on their jobs. Each of these students had major learning problems. Each met success to about the third grade reading level.

In 1999 Yvonne Grandy asked me to become a tutor in the English as a Second Language (ESL) program. That arrangement worked as I began teaching English to two students. One was from Tunisia and the other from China. Yi-lun had lived here three weeks when he reported to a one-on-one tutoring session. He had an accounting degree from Shanghai University. After a five month study of the Test of English as Foreign Language, TOEFL, he earned a passing score on the test and was accepted to the Masters program in Computer Science at Penn State. He is employed at an investment company in eastern Pennsylvania and became a United States citizen in 2008. Ben from Tunisia works in the food industry in Pittsburgh.

That fall Yvonne asked if I would teach a group of people. We had never done this before and didn't have a place large enough to do it. A classroom was located at the Westmoreland County Community College and that class has changed and evolved to where it is today. The class has had as many as 20 students and currently has 10 regular students. At times I still teach individuals when the opportunity arises. During the past eleven years I have taught about 200 students from 21 countries. The students learn English, and in return I learn a lot about world culture and customs and the world in general. The face of foreign student causes you to see people of that country in a positive way.

In my career I spent 34 years teaching special needs students in Mount Pleasant and Hempfield Area School Districts. This background worked well for teaching with the YWCA Literacy Council.

Keith Neill, September 2010

Keith has worked with the YWCA for over 20 years.

*When he was nearly thirteen my brother Jeb got his arm badly broken at the elbow.

To Kill A Mocking Bird, First sentence.

Literacy Program Updates

From the Desk of Maggie O'Leary, Literacy Director

Holiday Edition 2010

LITERACY PROGRAM USED BOOK SALE FUNDRAISER

Thanks to all YWCA volunteers, friends, staff and board members who made the 36th Annual Used Book Sale a huge success. You were all instrumental in making this fundraiser happen! What a team we are!!

During the months of November and December, we are highlighting book donations in the Children's and Young Reader's categories. If you would like to donate a children's book (or two) to promote Literacy, please bring them into the main office. Of course, we still accept any books throughout the year. Our donation shed is located adjacent to our parking lot. Thank you for supporting and advancing the cause of Literacy!

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

We are currently teaching English Language Classes in two locations. Our Beginning Class is held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30 to 11:30 at the YWCA building on Main Street in Greensburg. Our Advanced Class is taught on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 AM to 12 Noon in Founder's Hall at WCCC . The enrollment for classes is currently full, but we are taking registrations for the January term. Please call to register.

Tutor/Student and Book Sorters' Christmas Party

On Thursday, December 16th we are planning a Covered Dish Dinner and Christmas party for tutors, their students, and our book sorters. Please bring a side dish, appetizer, or dessert. Invitations will be in the mail in the early part of November. Please come and share an evening with your fellow volunteers. Join us for holiday games, door prizes, delicious food, and great conversation! You all make the Literacy Program possible, and this event is one of the ways we say



"YOU are appreciated!"



host your next event at the ywca

The YWCA of Westmoreland County, located in the Huff Mansion, is the perfect venue for showers, birthday parties, banquets, workshops, seminars or any special event. The ambiance in the living room and library is welcoming. The unique architectural design and detailed wood-work warm the atmosphere. Located on the main floor are the living room, library, dining room, kitchen and powder room. The newer Founders Room holds up to 90 people for larger events. The holidays are fast approaching. Host your holiday event with the YWCA. Book early by calling 724-834-9390 or email at marylouiseh@ywcawestmoreland.org


eliminating racism
empowering women
ywca

424 North Main Street
Greensburg, PA 15601
Phone: 724-834-9390



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12.1.10 | DAY OF GIVING

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The COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
of Westmoreland County

AFFILIATED WITH THE PITTSBURGH FOUNDATION

CHOOSE THE YWCA OF WESTMORELAND COUNTY AND CLICK TO GIVE!

<h2>christmas gift ideas</h2> <p>YWCA GIFT CERTIFICATES</p> <p>AVAILABLE FOR WELLNESS CLASSES, COMPUTER CLASSES, CHILDREN'S CLASSES, THRIFT SHOP and MEMBERSHIPS!</p> <p>ENJOY AND ENTERTAINMENT COUPON BOOKS MAKE GREAT GIFTS TOO!</p> 	 <p>YOU SEARCH WE GIVE</p> <p>Go to www.GoodSearch.com and list the YWCA of Westmoreland County as your charity. For every search that is done the YWCA will receive 1 penny!</p> <p>How does it work?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• On the GoodSearch homepage list the YWCA of Westmoreland County as your charity.• Search the Internet just like you normally would — the site is powered by Yahoo!, so you'll get high-quality search results.• Fifty percent of the revenue generated from the sponsored search advertisers is shared with the YWCA.
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