

## YWCA WESTMORELAND COUNTY Fall 2021 Newsletter

### Save The Date!

#### YWCA Westmoreland County **Girls In Pearls: An “Amaizeing” Gala!**

Monday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
5:30 PM - 8:30 PM

**Rizzo’s Malabar Inn**

Crabtree, PA

Fashions from the YWCA Thrift Shop

*Invitations will follow*



Emcee: Lynne Hayes-Freeland

**SEE INSIDE:** NEW YGirls Connect  
Group Looks to Create Community  
Among Young Women

YGIRLS  
CONNECT



See page 5

YWCA Westmoreland County  
424 North Main Street • Greensburg, PA 15601  
724-834-9390 • [ywcawestmoreland.org](http://ywcawestmoreland.org)  
Monday - Thursday: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

# YWCA Girls Field Hockey

The YWCA Dragons Field Hockey program will participate in a Fall outdoor season starting August 30 – October 29, 2021 (Monday, Wednesday, Friday). Call 724-834-9390 now to register!



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## STRONG ALONE, FEARLESS TOGETHER

### 2020-2021 YWCA Board Members

Theresa Rusbosin (President)  
Carlene Williams (Vice President)  
Catherine Caccia (Treasurer)  
Diane Krivoniak (Secretary)  
Lyndsay Burrik  
Cheri Cavanaugh  
Paula Maloney  
Rosin Rivera-Bretaña

### YWCA Staff

Carol H. Palcic, Executive Director  
Diana Basick, Thrift Shop Director  
Mary Lou Glover, Adult Education Coordinator  
Cheryl Hershberger, Thrift Shop Staff  
Ramona Kocinski, PA WORKWEAR Coordinator  
Matthew Kolbosky, Facilities Director  
Joe Rush, Facilities Assistant  
Gabby Skillings, Office & Membership Coordinator  
Amy Yemc, Thrift Shop Staff

**Mission:** We are dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women, and promoting peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all.

**Vision:** We live and work in a community that embraces equity, acceptance, and diversity and in which women and girls have opportunities for enrichment and advancement.

# Message from our Executive Director

Greetings and Thank You to all for the warm welcome!

I am Carol Palcic, the newly appointed Executive Director here at the YWCA. What an amazing **organization. . . and I have to say I “hit the jack-pot”** when it comes to the dedicated staff, board and volunteers. This remarkable group of individuals is the reason the YWCA has made it through the turbulence of 2020 and all of the uncertainty that went along with it. The enthusiasm and dedication of each of them is truly incredible!

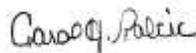
Many changes have occurred over the past year, yet many things have stayed the same. What has not changed. . . the YWCA is excited to let you know our doors are open! The YWCA remains strong and we are back and better than ever! There are new programs and classes to offer, and are gearing up for our Annual Used Book Sale and the Girls in Pearls Fashion Show, to name a few. We will be updating the YWCA website, Facebook page and sending constant contact updates to keep you informed. There are so many exciting things to look forward to this year here at the YW!

The Mansion has been abuzz with activity and we are

looking forward to seeing you at one of our events. Or just stop in to say hello!

The YWCA is on a mission, creating opportunities for women and girls to lead purposeful lives and strive for a community that values and embraces diversity and cultural differences. And, we invite each and every one of you to stand with us and create real change!

Regards,



Carol H. Palcic



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## Upcoming Events!

Annual Used Book Sale: August 19th - 21st

Girls In Pearls 16th Annual Fashion Show: October 18th

Week Without Violence: October 18th-23rd

Celebrating Our Female Veterans: November 11th

Breakfast With Santa: December 20th

## English as a Second Language Classes Continue into the Spring

Classes will continue into the spring. Classes are \$50 a month plus a one time book fee upon registration. Please call 724-834-9390 to register. Students and instructors wear masks and practice social distancing. All classes are located at 424 N Main St, Greensburg, PA. The classes focus on English speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills as well as grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation. and friendly classroom.

### Spring 2021 ESL Class Schedule

#### Beginners Class

12:30 pm - 2:30 pm | Tuesdays & Thursdays  
September 2 - December 23

#### Intermediate Class

9:30 am - 11:30 am | Tuesdays & Thursdays  
September 3- December 23

**NEW!!**

YWCA Book Store Coming Soon!!

Please join us for our Grand Opening on Friday, October 1st at 10am. Our book store is located at our 424 N Main Street site. Call 724-834-9390 for further details.

Thank you all for your continued support in book donations. Our Book Shed will reopen October 1st.



## Rent the Historic Huff Mansion for Your Upcoming Events and Meetings

The Huff Mansion is available for special events and meetings. The Mansion is a perfect venue for showers, parties, family gatherings, meetings, and more. It features:

- Fully Equipped Kitchen for your Caterer
- Beautiful Portico and Porch
- Elegant Spiral Staircase - Perfect for Weddings
- Wireless Internet Access
- Podium and Microphone
- Projector, Screen, and/or Dry Erase Boards for your Presentations

The entire main floor of the mansion is available for your special events. Call 724-834-9390 for more information and rental rates.



**YWCA IS ON A MISSION**

# NEW YGirls Connect Group Looks to Create Community Among Young Women

## YGIRLS CONNECT



You decide the future. Let's build it together!

Our *NEW* program YGirls Connect is coming to the YWCA this year, launching Wednesday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at 6pm! YGirls Connect is a community group for young women ages 14-25 meeting once a month at the YWCA.

The group is designed to build self-confidence, promote leadership development, and become socially engaged while meeting our mission of eliminating racism and empowering women.

Young women interested in more information, or in attending the September 15<sup>h</sup> meeting should call 724-834-9390.

## 2021 Annual Poster Contest Winners

Leah



Grace Copeland



Ariana Aranovich



Emma Monaco



## International Women's Group Continues to Build Community, Stays Connected via ZOOM

The YWCA's International Women's Group welcomes women of all nationalities to Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania.

The International Women's Group meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month (September - June). Currently, the group is utilizing ZOOM and meets online from 12:00 pm - 12:40 pm.

The Group provides a meeting place for women to meet each other and develop friendships, to share and learn about the U.S.A. (particularly the new area in which they are living), improve their English and become a part of and adapt to their new community. Contact the YWCA at 724-834-9390 for more information and to get connected with the group.

# A NEW Way to Shop, Same Great Deals at the YWCA Thrift Shop

Located at 221 S Maple Ave in Greensburg, our Thrift Shop takes donations during regular business hours and consignment as per our schedule. For more information about consignment, donations, and our schedule visit [www.ywcawestmoreland.org/ywcathriftshop/](http://www.ywcawestmoreland.org/ywcathriftshop/)



## Upcoming Dates!

- Fall Consignment: August 30th
- CLOSED for Labor Day: September 6th
- Fall Consignment Ends: October 2nd
- Winter Consignment starts: October 11th
- CLOSED for Thanksgiving: November 25th
- CLOSED for Holiday Break: December 23rd- January 2nd. Re-Open January 3rd.

YWCA Thrift Shop  
221 S. Maple Ave | Greensburg, PA 15601 | 724-834-4339  
M, T, W, F, Sat: 10 am- 4 pm | TH: 10 am- 7 pm

Like us on Facebook & follow us on Instagram to shop online EXCLUSIVE deals throughout the week!  
In store pick up or we ship to you!



YWCA Thrift Shop



@ywcathrift

## PA WORKWEAR Program Provides Essentials for Women in Need

PA WORKWEAR, a program of the YWCA Westmoreland County, provides women with free professional clothing for job search, training, and employment. Clients are referred by the County Assistance Office (CAO), Private Industry Council (PIC), as well as other county agencies.

Designate your items for PA WORKWEAR and drop them off at our Thrift Shop.

For more information or to set up a drop-off, contact Ramona Kocinski at 724-834-1383 or email [ramonak@ywcawestmoreland.org](mailto:ramonak@ywcawestmoreland.org).

We welcome and appreciate your tax deductible donations of:

- Clean business clothes including maternity wear
- Khakis, blue and black denim jeans, polo shirts, sweatshirts, and medical scrubs
- Flat, wedge or low heel, closed-toe professional shoes
- Unopened trial/hotel sizes of hygiene products
- Professional purses that are black or neutral
- Bras
- Clothing store gift cards
- Monetary donations

# 2021 Annual Meeting

**President's Award** - Diane Hightower, outgoing President of the YWCA of Westmoreland County, presented the 2021 President's award to Greater Parkview Church led by its pastor, Bishop Carl Jones. In presenting the award, President Hightower explained that the President's Award has been given annually since 1993 to a county resident or an organization, who has demonstrated a commitment to significant volunteerism and community service. "The labor of Greater Parkview Church under Bishop Jones' mentorship and pastoral guidance has addressed hunger, health, and education, in powerful ways throughout the county, and for this, we honor you," explained President Hightower.

An example of the leadership that Greater Parkview Church, located on Westminster Avenue in Greensburg, has demonstrated in the community was the fight against vaccine hesitancy, especially by minority populations. Greater Parkview partnered with Voice of Westmoreland and Mainline Pharmacy to hold a vaccine clinic at their church in April 2021.

**RACIAL JUSTICE AWARD RECIPIENT** - It was ironic, yet fitting, that Dr. Melissa Marks was on a family vacation to Memphis, Birmingham, and Atlanta to witness first-hand the impact of the civil rights movement of the 1950s and 60s when she received word that she was the recipient of the YWCA Westmoreland County's 2021 Racial Justice Award. The award presentation took place in conjunction with the YWCA annual meeting on Tuesday June 29, 2021 at the YWCA Mansion.

Dr. Marks' full-time job is professor of education at UPG, but she began her career as a middle school social science teacher, which she held for 10 years. In addition to preparing the next generation of secondary education teachers, she has provided, for the past several years, workshops in the area of Implicit Bias.

The YWCA Racial Justice Committee agreed to present this year's award, which has been given annually since 1993, to Dr. Marks because she has demonstrated a commitment to racial equity through efforts to build community, raise awareness, and further racial harmony and inclusiveness. As a champion of racial justice, Dr. Marks has shown through her actions a common vision for peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all people.

