

# GREATER CONSHOHOCKEN BPW

www.facebook.com/Greater-Conshohocken-Business-and-Professional-Women-204641136404715/

# Conshohocken Calling.....

The Official Newsletter of the Greater Conshohocken Business & Professional Women's Organization

UPCOMING EVENT

GREATER CONSHOHOCKEN BPW 75<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY LUNCHEON

SATURDAY, MARCH 23<sup>RD</sup> NOON TO 3PM



Come and celebrate Greater Conshohocken BPW's 75<sup>th</sup> birthday! There will be lots of fun, food and friendship, so join us at Phil's Tavern in Blue Bell. To date, State Representative Greg Scott and Mayor Aronson will be presenting us with proclamations at the luncheon and a Montgomery County Commissioner proclamation is in process! We are also honored to have Conshohocken First Lady Sarah Aronson, President, Destination Conshohocken coming to the event. And our BPW/PA President, Michelle Holler and President Elect, Jennifer Van Ingen will be joining us as well. Don't miss it!

Remember to bring your used books to the luncheon in honor of National Library Week!



Hi Everyone:

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What a great meeting we had the other night. Denise Chresos from District 2 Indiana Local was our guest speaker and told us all about her work with the Big Balloon Builds. What a great event. It was so interesting to hear the different ideas people had for the builds and how they worked together to provide such amazing displays. The fact that the balloons are safe for our environment was a definite segway into our recycle, reuse, repurpose theme for this year. It was also important to note that the builds are also for specific charities such as Ronald McDonald House, United Way, etc. I was so happy to donate a gallon zip lock bag of can tabs for the April build for Ronald McDonald House. Hope you win Denise. We also had several new members at the zoom meeting and a few perspective members. It was great to see some new faces.

We are working diligently to get ready for our March 23, 2024 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday Luncheon at Phil's Tavern. If you haven't responded yet, please let me know. It should be a fun time. We have great guest speakers, and members of BPW/PA from other locals and the Executive Committee. Hope you can make it.

February was a busy month, attending meetings at other clubs (via zoom). I also was privileged to attend the Book Club held by Carole Turk of District 10. The book that was discussed was written by Cynthia Culbreath about her cousin titled: *The Olympian Leap: The Life and Legacy of Josh Culbreath.* Met Cynthia at her book signing at Barnes and Noble and she agreed to be our May Guest Speaker. Mary, Ginny and I attended the State Winter Board Meeting at Penn State, which is always filled with catching up with great friends, finding out what is going on around the state and sharing lots of information.

Hope to see you at our 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday Luncheon. Stay safe and warm.

Donna



# **INVEST IN YOURSELF BY INVESTING IN BPW**

Our organization's year runs from July 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>, so any new member joining GC BPW from December 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup> pays half year dues (\$19.50). Interested? Go to <a href="mailto:conshohockenbpw@gmail.com">conshohockenbpw@gmail.com</a>.

Can't attend meetings? No problem! We will keep you up to date with what's happening in our GC BPW monthly newsletter and on our Facebook page. Get involved today!

# FEBRUARY 26<sup>TH</sup> GC BPW ZOOM MEETING: BIG BALLOON EVENTS DENISE CHRESOS, OWNER, FLOWER AND BALLOON GALLERY, INDIANA, PA







For more spectacular photos, visit <a href="https://www.bigballoonbuild.com/">https://www.bigballoonbuild.com/</a>

What is the Big Balloon Build™? We make a difference to the world through larger-than-life experiences called Balloon Worlds. Working alongside charities, communities, businesses and local leaders, our aim is to inspire, empower, and support positive change.

Making a difference in the Community: The Big Balloon Build™ is focused on a local charitable cause, whose mission is to promote the health and wellbeing of children, whether they are underprivileged or have a disability. The Big Balloon Build will give them an experience of a magical immersive wonderland out of balloons and also raises awareness of the cause.

**Sustainability:** We are proud members of the Pro-Environment Balloon Alliance and are committed to responsible sourcing and sustainable practices. We do not use helium, plastic or foil balloons at our Builds. We only use Prima Balloons which are industry leaders in sustainability, Animal Conservation and support for Children's Charities. All balloons are recycled after a Big Balloon Build.

#### **UPCOMING BIG BALLOON EVENTS:**

• April 25-28, 2024 Northern Indiana Event Center in Elkhart. Benefits the Ronald McDonald House Charities® of Michiana. NOTE: Denise is collecting can tabs to donate to the Ronald McDonald House, and President Donna already gave a bag full to BPW/PA VP Sarah to give to Denise!



- July 18-22, 2024 Cultural Center for the Arts, Canton, Ohio. Benefits ArtsinStark
- November 21-24 Indiana, PA. Denise will host this Big Balloon Build immediately after the "It's
  a Wonderful Life Festival" and parade. Benefits United Way of Indiana County. Congratulations
  Denise on your efforts to bring a Big Balloon Build to Pennsylvania!



#### GC BPW JANUARY AND FEBRUARY RECYCLING

In January, members collected eyeglasses and donated them to the Lion's Club International Recycle for Sight Program drop-off at St. Philip Neri Church in Lafayette Hill.





In February, 30 ink cartridges and a printer/keyboard were recycled at Best Buy and Staples. We will continue to recycle ink cartridges, so if you have any to donate, bring them to a meeting.









**UPCOMING GC BPW RECYCLING PROJECT IN MARCH IS USED BOOKS....** 



# **BPW EVENT UPDATES**

BPW/PA LEGISLATIVE FORUM - COMBATING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (DV)
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2024 VIA ZOOM

Rachel Haynes Pinsker, ESQ, delivered an inspiring and informative presentation on Combating DV during the Legislative Platform Forum on Thursday, February 6<sup>th</sup>. Donna and Mary attended the Forum. State Legislation Committee member, Carole Turk and past Legislation Chair, Lilly Gioia, have written a Policy Resolution to be presented at Convention urging Governor Shapiro to create an Office for Domestic Violence, and empowering its Director to implement a state-based data system and mandates for first responders to follow.

A Forum recording is available at the BPW/PA YouTube Channel: If you advance past the first 15 minutes, you will be at the exact spot where Rachel's presentation and slide show starts. <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wNdBaEmS81Y">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wNdBaEmS81Y</a>. Click here for more content from the presentation! Speaking of BPW/PA YouTube...

#### **BPW/PA LAUNCHES YOUTUBE CHANNEL**

As we continue through this year, we are bringing exciting workshops and courses for you to develop and grow. We know with everyone's busy schedules; attendance isn't always possible. Worry no more! BPW/PA has launched a YouTube Channel. If you have ideas on other workshops or presentations, please reach out to President Michelle Holler at <a href="mailto:holleratchelle@gmail.com">holleratchelle@gmail.com</a>.

# NEXT BPW/PA LEGISLATIVE FORUM ON MARCH 21ST - ERA UPDATE VIA ZOOM: 7PM

Announcing the upcoming:
BPW/PA Legislative Platform Forum
Celebrating Women's History Month
Topic: Equal Rights Amendment-update

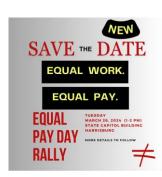
Speaker: Nancy Werner, ERA activist, ERA Coalition Member, BPW/PA Past State President 1995-96



During the May 2023 Legislative Platform Forum on the Equal Rights Amendment Nancy Werner presented both the most current legal challenges and outcomes with the U.S. judicial system at that time, as well as the U.S. Congressional vote that occurred in late April. Following up a year later she will entertain the latest strategies from the ERA Coalition. Plans and ideas are still very active across our country. Forum attendees will also have the unique opportunity to travel with Nancy Werner and Denice Robinson, (both BPWPA PSPs) as they attended the memorable events on July 21-23, 2023 at the First Presbytenan Church and the Wesleyan Chapel in Seneca Falls, New York for the Centennial Celebration Days of Alice Paul's delivery of the Equal Rights Amendment.

Date: Thursday, March 21, 2024, 7:00-8:00 P.M. via Zoom Register online via the BPW/PA Website https://bpwpa.wildapricot.org/event-5639578

Presented by District 10
Sponsored by the BPW/PA Legislation Committee
If you have any questions please email Carole Turk, District 10 Legislation Chair at caroleturk@comcast.net.



# EQUAL PAY DAY RALLY- MARCH 26<sup>TH</sup>, HARRISBURG

\*\*UPDATES\*\*

President Michelle will be our Mistress of Ceremonies and we have very enthusiastic confirmations from the following speakers (in no particular order):

Rep. Jason Dawkins, HB 1500
Rep. MaryLouise Isaacson, HB 356
Amal Bass, Women's Law Project, HB 98
Rep. Donna Bullock, HB 98
Rep. Jennifer O'Mara, HB 98
Someone from AAUW/PA to be named later

Also, if planning to attend please send an email to Ginny at <a href="Muffygin@aol.com">Muffygin@aol.com</a> so we have an idea how many are planning to attend and how many signs to get.



CMC BPW FEBRUARY 15<sup>TH</sup> ZOOM MEETING

On Feb. 15th, Central Montgomery County BPW President Mo Gillen and members, Dianna Thornton enhancingyourfinances.com and Mercedes Petrellis cimontheweb.com, presented relevant financial information on black women ceiling smashers in the financial world, tips for budgeting, and advice on investing. President Donna and Ginny attended the meeting.





In honor of Black History Month, the featured book was *The Olympian Leap: The Life and Legacy of Josh Culbreath* by Cynthia Culbreath, CMC BPW member. On the phone was Diane Bolette from Hawaii, who knew Josh since age 8. Cynthia stated in a follow-up email, "It was my pleasure to answer questions for everyone to learn more about this legendary figure from our shared hometown of Norristown and to engage with fellow sisters in exploring his achievements and contributions." The participants also brainstormed on how Norristown could recognize Josh Culbreath for his many achievements. President Donna and Mary joined in on the discussion and Donna attended Cynthia's book signing at Barnes and Noble, Plymouth Meeting on Saturday, February 24<sup>th</sup> (see photo above).



BPW/PA MARCH 28th BOOK CLUB - THE FIRST LADIES

This is a historical fiction story of two different, yet equally formidable, passionate, and committed women, Eleanor Roosevelt and Mary McLeod Bethune, and the way in which their singular friendship helped form the foundation for the modern civil rights movement. **Not to be missed for Women's History Month!** 



## **BPW/PA MID-WINTER BOARD MEETING EVENTS**

#### www.youtube.com/watch?v=UkCwfnoHuYs

Join us as we take you behind the scenes of the Mid-Winter Board Meeting hosted by the dynamic ladies of BPW/PA. From insightful discussions on empowering women to the camaraderie built during the Unhappy Hour event, this video captures the essence of a weekend filled with inspiration, networking, and shared experiences. Don't miss out on the highlights, empowering moments, and the spirit of unity that defines the BPW/PA community.

#Becasueofbpw #BPW #EmpowerWomen #MidWinterBoard



# BPW/PA NETWORKING/UNHAPPY HOUR - MARCH 1, 2024

The members enjoyed the dinner and chance to get to know one another better with "Guess your word" and "2 truths and a lie"! Our thanks to President-Elect Van Ingen and VP Sarah Kitchen for putting together this event!



### BPW/PA MID-WINTER BOARD MEETING - MARCH 2, 2024

GC BPW President Donna, Mary and Ginny attended the meeting, which was called to order at 8:40 am by President Holler. Preliminary business was completed, a quorum was declared and three first-timers were recognized. Reports were distributed prior to the meeting; only additional info was reported. "Growing Your Membership in a Noisy World" was presented by Stephanie Desaulniers. PA BPW Foundation and NFBPWC Conference provided updates. Vice President Sarah Kitchen then provided information on how to "Spring Into Wellness".

Unfinished business included a Restructuring/Reorg Committee Update, Member Directory Updates, State Project Workgroup Suggested Updates (adopted), and 2023 Convention Report.

Under New Business, Executive Committee (EC) Action Items were considered and adopted. These included changing the mileage reimbursement for Board Members to Board Meetings and Convention to a \$100/member stipend; that the Post-Convention Board, EC, planning and finance/budget meetings for mileage reimbursements be discontinued (Zoom meetings now); that only 2 KEY issues be distributed (Fall and Spring); that Convention sites will now be "'within the central region of PA".

An update on Equal Pay Day (March 26, 2024) was given and President Elect Van Ingen then introduced her 2024-2025 Board of Directors. District 10 provided their promotion of the 104<sup>th</sup> BPW/PA Annual Convention and the raffle winners were chosen; proceeds went to the State Project, Keystone Services. After announcements, the meeting was adjourned.



# CENTRAL MONTGOMERY COUNTY BPW UNHAPPY HOUR - MARCH 14, 2024

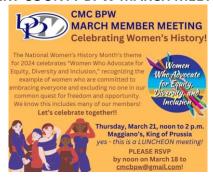


Raise a glass with us! Ticket includes snacks and a signature mocktail!



#### cmcbpw@gmail.com

# CENTRAL MONTGOMERY COUNTY BPW MARCH MEETING - MARCH 21, 2024



# GREAT JOB SOUDERTON-TELFORD BPW!

Souderton-Telford Business and Professional Women Hold Successful Coat Drive



(Credit: Souderton-Telford Business & Professional Women)

The Reporter Staff • Tue, Feb 06, 2024, 8:55 AM

The Souderton-Telford Business and Professional Women (BPW) recently teamed up with local non-profit Angels Sharing the Warmth to host its first annual coat drive.

From Jan. 2 to Jan. 21, the organization collected coats from four different drop off locations in the Souderton area, with community members showing up on a daily basis to donate bags of coats, gloves, hats, and gloves. In the end, over 50 bags were donated with over 500 coats for women, men, and children, said a Souderton-Telford BPW press release.

"Thanks to everyone who sugerted this endeavor local

# QUAKERTOWN BPW UNHAPPY HOUR - MARCH 14, 2024



# **UPPER PERKIOMEN BPW UNHAPPY HOUR - MARCH 20, 2024**



Upper Perkiomen BPW Networking UnHappy Hour and Business Card Exchange

# **Supporting Equal Pay Day**

Sponsored by Shelby Leight - Keller Williams Realty Group

# MARCH 20<sup>TH</sup>

4:30pm - 6:30pm

NETWORKING | APPETIZERS | DRINKS

Are you ready to elevate your network and make meaningful business connections? Join us for a Networking Happy Hour where professionals from various industries gather to



RSVP by going to the link below https://forms.gle/dBbmNY2ws1TH7EFv5

# **UPPER PERKIOMEN BPW APRIL LOTTERY TICKETS**



# BPW/PA 2024 STATE CONVENTION - June 6 - 9, 2024



Hop on the Bus to the Best Western Premier, The Central Hotel and Conference Center, 800 East Park Drive, Harrisburg!

Advanced registration discount ends March 31, 2024

\*Updated documents, forms, and announcements will be posted below in anticipation of the 2024 Convention. You can also find these updates on our website in the Members Only section or click:

# CONVENTION 2024 INFO, FORMS, FLYERS! CLICK HERE

**Convention Registration Form (click here)** 

#### **BPW/PA CONVENTION VENDORS NEEDED**



The BPW member vendor cost for a 6-foot table is \$50. Vendor setup starts Thursday from 4-7 pm and sales are Friday 7am-6pm and Saturday 7am – 4 pm. If interested complete <u>one</u> form below and send to one of the Chairs:

Glenda Auker (gauker1@comcast.net) and Ro Colantuono (rocol@juno.com)

BPWPA State Convention Vendor Registration\_Ro.pdf

BPWPA State Convention Vendor Registration\_Glenda.pdf

**CONVENTION SWAG BAG ITEMS NEEDED!** 

If you would like to donate items to be placed in our 2024 Convention Swag bags; please notify President Donna.

# **COMMUNITY NEWS**

# Montco launches new commission supporting women and girls



Just in time for Women's History Month, Montgomery County is proud to launch a new commission focused on the concerns and needs of girls and individuals who identify as women.

The Montgomery County Commission for Women is committed to representing the interests of women of all races, ages, ethnic and social backgrounds, religious convictions, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability/ability, and social circumstances.

Its members will also advocate for the lives and well-being of women by building strong collaborations, sharing available resources, and educating and empowering women and girls throughout our County. Interested in being part of these efforts? Apply today! All applications must be received by March 28.

#### Learn more



Register

# Charting a path to success for women of all backgrounds

In honor of this year's theme of National Women's History Month 2024, "Women Who Advocate for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion," join us on Wednesday, March 20 at 12 p.m. for a virtual session exploring integral components needed to provide real opportunities for health and wellness, success, and achievement to all girls and women.

Our presenter for this session will be Dr. Candace Robertson-James, an associate professor, director of the Bachelor and Master of Public Health Programs, and chair of the Department of Urban Public Health and Nutrition at LaSalle University.

# LAUREL HOUSE NEEDS PAJAMAS, SLIPPERS, PANTS, SHIRTS, SHEETS!



#### THE CONSHOHOCKEN CAB REVS UP!

For more information: https://www.conshohockenpa.org/living.../conshohocken-cab Live tracking: https://buswhere.com/conshohocken/routes/conshohocken



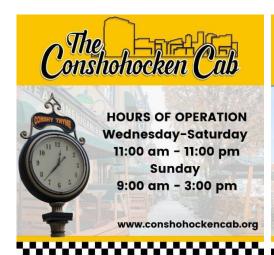
The Conshohocken Cab, a partnership between GVF and TransNet, is a 14-passenger shuttle that will stop at 20 locations in a continuous loop in and around Conshohocken Borough.

The Cab will provide easy access to dining, large residential complexes, shopping, and the SEPTA train station for access to the regional rail network. The Conshohocken Cab is ADAcompliant, equipped with a bike rack and WiFi.



- STOP LOCATIONS
- I. SEPTA Train Station 2. The Birch
- Residence Inn
- 4. Lumina
- 5. Riverwalk
- 6. Pepperoncini 7. Bar Sera
- 8. Bar Lucca
- 9. The Courts at Spring Mill
- Station
- 10. Sherry Hill Apartments
- 11. Giant 12. Plymouth Park Apartments
- 13. Plymouth Gardens
- 14. Eighth and Fayette
  15. Fourth and Fayette
- 16. Marshall Lee Towers
- 17. First and Favette
- 18. Sora West Plaza
- 20. Madison West Elm







EXACT CHANGE OR CREDIT/DEBIT CARD

- . \$2.00 per ride or 10 Ride Punch Card available on the shuttle for \$10.00 with a transaction fee for card purchases.
- · Minors are free if they are accompanied by an adult.
- Minors must pay the \$2.00 fee if they are NOT accompanied by an adult.
- Free for senior citizens (65+) with a SEPTA pass available at Rep. Greg Scott's office. www.conshohockencab.org

# TALES OF WEST CONSHY WITH JACK COLL - MARCH 9TH 1-3 PM

West Conshohocken's Sesquicentennial Celebration

Tales of West Conshy with Iack Coll

Saturday March 9th 1-3pm at Philadelphia Marriott West

Learn about our Borough's past 150 years from local historian Jack Coll. Enjoy a slide show and hear stories about the people and events that shaped West Conshohocken.

> This event is free for anyone to attend, please share with your friends.

# CONSHOHOCKEN FREE LIBRARY: UNTOLD STORY OF THE JUSTICE BELL - MARCH 11<sup>TH</sup> 6PM



Preview the documentary **here**.

Here is the link to register https://forms.gle/rzBgRcoA4Uz9mwwj9.

# VICTIM SERVICES: THE 5 PRACTICES OF HIGHLY RESILIENT PEOPLE - MARCH 15, 2024



VICTIM SERVICES OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY PRESENTS

The 5 Practices of Highly Resilient People: Why some flourish when others fold

Join us for an afternoon focused on enhancing your resilience, mental health, and wellbeing, in honor of Women's History Month, March 15th, 2024, 12 noon – 2 pm at Community Partners, 2506 N. Broad St., Colmar, PA 18915 with Dr. Taryn Marie Stejskal Registration 560 (Lunch & Certificness for 2 training hours included) registration deadline is March 11th

deadline is March 11<sup>111</sup>

Please register at <u>www.victimservicescenter.orq</u>
Interpreters available for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community
Zoom available link will be sent the day before the event



#### ST. PATRICK'S DAY EVENTS IN CONSHOHOCKEN





ST. PATRICK'S 5K & PARADE – MARCH 16<sup>TH</sup>

Conshohocken will be hosting the Montgomery County Saint Patrick's Day 5K and Parade on Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup> from 11 am to 3 pm. This year's Grand Marshal will be Sean Cullen and the theme is "Irish Hearts in America."

# VET CENTER: WOMEN VETERANS 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL HEALTH & WELLNESS – MARCH 22, 2024



# CONSHOHOCKEN EASTER EGG HUNT – MARCH 30<sup>TH</sup> AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER AT THE FEL



# **MARCH OBSERVANCES**

# INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY (IWD) – MARCH 8 #InspireInclusion NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

The National Women's History Month's theme for 2024 celebrates "Women Who Advocate for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion."

NATIONAL RED ACROSS AMERICA DAY – MARCH 2<sup>ND</sup>
NATIONAL CONSUMER PROTECTION WEEK
NATIONAL IRISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH
COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH
AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH
BLOOD CLOT AWARENESS MONTH
NATIONAL KIDNEY MONTH
NATIONAL MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS (MS) AWARENESS MONTH
NATIONAL ENDOMETRIOSIS AWARENESS MONTH
NATIONAL NUTRITION MONTH



# HAPPY MARCH BIRTHDAY TO..

**Donna Jones - March 20** 



# WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS!

- NANCY MATT, REALTOR, ASSOCIATE BROKER, KELLER WILLIAMS REAL ESTATE
- MARY ANNE SYLVESTER, PHILADELPHIA-BASED LIFE COACH, BE YOUR BEST LIFE & HEALTH COACHING

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO TERESA BROWNE-PARRIS ON THE PASSING OF HER BELOVED SISTER, ANDY MILLS-TYSON.

OUR SINCERE CONDOLENCES TO OUR VICE PRESIDENT RO KUNASZUK AND HER MOM, ROSE MARIE BERKEZCHUK AND AUNT JANET DETURO ON THE PASSING OF JAY KUNASZUK, RO'S HUSBAND. JAY WAS THE KIND MAN THAT HELPED US AT THE TK CLUB FOR OUR MEETINGS. HE WAS ALWAYS THERE AND TOOK GREAT CARE OF US SETTING UP FOR THE MEETING AND MAKING SURE WE HAD WHATEVER WE NEEDED TO DRINK.