

LEBANON COUNTY COMMISSION FOR WOMEN
ANNUAL **H**ALL OF **F**AME

*Luncheon & Awards
Celebration*

Honoring Outstanding Women of Lebanon County

Hidden Heroes Writing History

March 7, 2012



LEBANON COUNTY
Commission for Women



WELCOME



Welcome to the Third Annual Women's Hall of Fame Awards Ceremony. March of this year marks the 32nd anniversary of National Women's History Month. The national theme this year is Women's Education – Women's Empowerment. As we celebrate the accomplishments of women in our society nationally, it is fitting to celebrate the accomplishments of women locally. Today the contributions made by the third year inductees into the Lebanon County Women's Hall of Fame will be written into the history of the Lebanon Valley. The Lebanon County Commission for Women started in 2003, and after nine years in existence, we have no more founding members on our Board. The last founding member's term expired in December, 2011. We are so thankful to the founding members for establishing a Women's Commission that has served our community in so many ways.

The profits from this luncheon go toward a special project that we support each year. This year, focusing on the needs of women and families in our county, we will be supporting the efforts of Lebanon County Christian Ministries, Jubilee Ministries and the Lebanon County Coalition to End Homelessness, to establish an emergency shelter program and resource center for homeless individuals and families in Lebanon County. We also will be donating to the garden that is being created at White Deer Run in memory of founding member, Susan Funk Klarsch.

Today, we are honoring 12 exceptional women who have played a vital part in the development or implementation of projects that have benefited residents of the Lebanon Valley. They have all worked behind the scenes as "Hidden Heroes" or as leaders in the forefront, contributing to the quality of life in our community. The result of their work is significant and will touch lives for many years to come. We are truly fortunate to have so many outstanding women in the Lebanon Valley.

We have a new award to be given this year, the Emeritus Award. It defines a woman who has served with honor. The purpose of this award is to give recognition to retired or deceased members, officers or award recipients of the Lebanon County Commission for Women. The award recipient must be nominated by a current member or members of the Commission for Women.

On behalf of the entire Lebanon County Commission for Women and especially Bev Heishman and Cindy Heisey, thank you for being part of this annual event of local history.

Paula Doney, Chair

2012 Commission Members

Paula Doney, *Chair*
 Maria Dissinger, *Vice Chair*
 Nori Fisher, *Secretary*
 Kathy Kulbitsky, *Treasurer*
 Kathy Andrews
 Cheryl Batdorf
 Wanda Bechtold
 Loreen Burkett, Esq.
 Paula Doney
 Vanessa Fischer
 Emily Guilliams
 Beverly Heishman
 Lauren Holubec
 Susan Jaros
 Kim Kreider Umble
 Bonnie Loy
 Jenny Murphy Shifflet
 Jacqueline Parker
 Judy Sharpe
 Ivonne Torres
 Taryn Wagner
 Sue Werner
 Ex Officio's
 County Commissioner
 Jo Ellen Litz
 Representative
 Mauree Gingrich
 Representative
 Rose Marie Swanger
 Mayor Sherry Capello



LUNCHEON AGENDA

10:45 am	Doors Open
11:00 am	Registration <i>Music by Lee Moyer</i>
11:30 am	Lunch Served
12:00 pm	Welcome — Paula Doney
12:10 pm	Introduction of Alicia Richards
12:15 pm	Introduction of Award Recipients and Nominators with Pin Presentation by Sponsor
	Emeritus Award
12:50 pm	Closing Remarks – Bev Heishman
1:00 pm	Conclusion



About Us

The Lebanon County Commission for Women was established in 2003, by the Lebanon County Commissioners.

The Commission serves as a conduit to the County Commissioners on issues of concern to women in Lebanon County.

The mission of the Commission is to promote awareness, be a catalyst for change and facilitate action in matters pertaining to women and their families.

“If you want something said, ask a man, if you want something done, ask a woman”

—Margaret Thatcher

HOF Luncheon Committee

Bev Heishman, Chair
Loreen Burkett
Maria Dissinger
Emily Guilliams
Kathy Kulbitsky
Jo Ellen Litz
Bonnie Loy
Cindy Heisey
Heidi Neiswender

Guidelines for Nomination

Women who live and/or work in the Lebanon Valley, or have played an integral part in the development and/or implementation of project(s) that have benefited the Lebanon Valley or have worked as Hidden Heroes touching lives in a positive way.

HALL OF FAME AWARD

Our inductees will receive a Hall of Fame pin. It is an original work of art created by local artist Yasmin Brown. Each pin is an original handcrafted, one of a kind creation that is as unique as the individual receiving it.

The pin base is made of multicolored dichroic glass. This type of media provides different ways to create a unique play of colors on each pin. The uniqueness of the base symbolizes the uniqueness of the award recipient.



The feminine image on the pin represents three characteristics of the recipients. The base of the image is the shape of a diamond which represents the solid foundation of the recipient. The raised arms represent the innate strength of the recipient. The heart shape of the reaching arms represents the recipient's warmth and caring.

Mistress of Ceremonies

Alicia Richards co-anchors abc27's 6:00 & 11:00 p.m. newscasts. She holds a degree in journalism from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas.



Over the years, Alicia has become well known for her efforts on behalf of breast cancer awareness. Her Buddy Check 27 series won two Pennsylvania Association of Broadcaster awards and she and her mother Karen are featured in public service announcements promoting the importance of early detection. In addition, Alicia was awarded a first place Associated Press award for "Lori's Story," a moving ten-part series on a local woman's determined battle against breast cancer.

Alicia takes great pride in her extensive involvement with the Central Pennsylvania community. In addition to regular speaking engagements, she serves on the Community Action Board at Harrisburg Academy and on the Essence of Humanity Board.

“What is sad for women of my generation is that they weren’t supposed to work if they had families. What were they going to do when children are grown—watch the rain-drops coming down the window pane?”

—Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis

2012 HALL OF FAME

Inductees



Women Promoting Agriculture

Nominator: Pam Tricamo

[actively working to preserve and promote agriculture]

Catherine Schott is known for her great cooking, outgoing personality, and love of people. At 76, she supervises 16 people in the kitchen at the Lebanon Valley Exposition Center. Former Secretary of Agriculture Sam Hayes gave Catherine the nickname of "Queen Bee." Catherine also serves as President of the Lebanon County Society of Farm Women which provides scholarships and, among other services, care for fellow farm women who become sick and have no insurance.

Women Contributing to the Arts

Nominator: Loreen Burkett, Esq.

[promoting the expression of the performing arts, visual arts, and literary arts]

Yasmin Brown is the owner of Spirit Dancer Designs, unique jewelry designs. She is a member and past treasurer of the Lebanon Valley Council for the Arts, the Goggleworks Center for the Arts, as well as the Pennsylvania Guild of Craftsmen. Yasmin shows her jewelry throughout the region. She has won many awards, including the 2008 "Women on the Move" award from HACC's Institute for Entrepreneurial Studies. A portion of all her sales goes to SARCC. Yas is a consistent contributor to fundraising events for dozens of social service agencies. She designed and made the Hall of Fame recipient pins.



Women Contributing to the Community

Nominator: David Lasky

[contributing to the quality of life by supporting the social growth of the community]

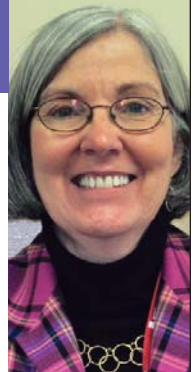
Kathy Moe has earned a reputation as a leader in her community by securing funding to preserve a large section of Annville, and by placing it on the National Register of Historic Places. She led the effort to construct a pedestrian footbridge in the Quittapahilla Creek Nature Park and doubled the streamside trail along that creek. In addition, Kathy served as President of Friends of Old Annville during the 250th anniversary celebration and returned Annville's 19th century train station to the community.

Women Providing Leadership in Education

Nominators: Mary Wildasin & Christina Stark

[promoting innovation and inspiring personal growth]

Mary Dague has been the Principal at Cleona Elementary School for the past 10 years, and has been with the Annville-Cleona School District for 20 years. She promotes innovation in the classroom, serves as an instructional model for staff members and is in the process of implementing Common Core Standards, which provides information on current technology trends that can be implemented to enhance student learning. Mary reaches out to local preschools and daycare centers to take part in a collaborative discussion about the education of children. She also invites children (ages 2-5) and their parents to interactive sessions that promote literacy and math in their homes to prepare for kindergarten.



Women Preserving the Environment

Nominator: Michael D. Pavelek II

[actively working to protect natural resources]

Roberta DeSantis serves as Chair of the Greater Lebanon Refuse Authority (GLRA), which is a volunteer position. Under her leadership, GLRA has received many honors and awards from environmental and business organizations, including a Local Government Excellence Award for the Household Hazardous Waste Program, the Penn Futures Award for the Methane Capture and Use Program, the EPA Landfill Methane Outreach Program Project, and the 2011 Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence. For the past 11 years, Lebanon County has maintained a 65 percent recycling rate, one of the best rates in the nation. Roberta is the office manager for Flex Membranes International, Inc.



Women Promoting Health Care

Nominator: Loreen Burkett, Esq.

[promoting awareness, educating and providing healthcare]

Pamela Wildonger has been the school nurse at Cedar Crest High School for the past 22 years. She has led the Code Blue Team, a specially trained group of emergency responders, since its inception. As a member of the LIFT (Life Intervention for Teens) Program, she has participated in interventions for students with severe addiction issues and assists them in receiving treatment. Pamela ran a pregnancy support and education group at the high school to ensure those teens received proper health care. She also provides a clothing bank providing for students' clothing needs, including students who are in school-to-work programs lacking sufficient resources to purchase appropriate attire.





Women Promoting Healthy Lifestyles

Nominator: Judith Cassel

[educating, conducting research or promoting fitness]

Gina Bouchette is a Registered Dietitian at the Lebanon VA Medical Center. She serves our Veterans as the Program Manager for the MOVE! weight management clinics and Bariatric Surgery Coordinator. MOVE! focuses on lifestyle changes through nutritional education, physical activity and behavior modification, with emphasis on personal responsibility and empowerment. She volunteers her time with the Lebanon VA's "No One Veteran Dies Alone" initiative. Gina is an active advocate of the Wounded Warrior Project and Multiple Sclerosis through her participation in the muddy obstacle races of Tough Mudder and MS Mud Runs.

Women Promoting Justice

Nominator: Christopher Hoffman

[striving for equality and peace]

Julie Bergstresser is a master's level licensed social worker at the Lebanon VA Medical Center. She coordinates the Veterans Justice Outreach Program. This program is a national partnership between the Veterans Health Administration and the State Supreme Courts. Julie has been instrumental in the establishment of this program locally that builds bridges between the VA and the various court levels in identifying veterans who may benefit from treatment versus incarceration. The program has grown since its inception to include Veterans Treatment Courts in Berks, Dauphin, Lancaster, and York Counties.



Women Serving the Military

Nominator: Todd Doney

[advocating, promoting or serving our country]

Priscilla Walker Ebright has been involved in supporting our military veterans for over 20 years. She is employed at New Penn Motor Express, Inc. as Payroll Manager for the past 33 years. Priscilla implemented a snack stand at her job to benefit the Wounded Warrior Project, which became an ongoing project. She is a life member of Women's Auxiliary of the Navy Club, USA Ship 91 as well as a member of the American Legion Auxiliary and the American Legion Riders. At the national level, Priscilla has served as Master-at-Arms and Chaplain for the NCUSA Women's Auxiliary.

Women Demonstrating Leadership

Nominator: Dwight Klopp

[forging new paths in business or community while serving as a role model]

Diana Hartman was the founding member of the Home Based Business Committee of the Lebanon Valley Chamber of Commerce and has been instrumental in elevating home based businesses to a new level of professional respect. Diana also served the Chamber as a board member from 1995 through 2001, culminating with her election as Chairman of the Board in 2000. She is currently serving a two year term as the President of the Community of Lebanon Association. Diana is the only person in the history of Lebanon County to hold the top volunteer leadership positions in both organizations. Many other Lebanon County organizations have also benefited from Diana's leadership skills, including Lebanon Family Health Services, Lebanon Catholic and the Glass Slipper Project.



Trailblazer

Nominator: Ed Coyle



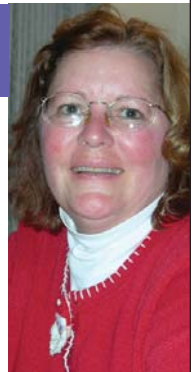
[pioneers of change through exceptional leadership]

Catherine Coyle became Lebanon County's first elected female District Justice in 1969. (District Justices were previously appointed to their positions.) Despite the opinions that she was "just a housewife and should go home," she continued to pursue her dream. Her grassroots campaign team consisted of her husband, John, and their five children. When her family tabulated the votes she received on election day she considered herself the winner, however, the next day it was reported that she lost by five votes. Her fight for a recount ended with Catherine being declared the winner by 7 votes. She took office in January of 1970 and served the people of Lebanon County for 20 years.

LCCW Emeritus Award

[in recognition of a retired Commission member who made significant contributions in the community/or in other areas of professional achievement]

Susan Funk Klarsch will long be remembered for many contributions to the Lebanon Valley. She worked as the Executive Director of Lebanon County Commission on Drug and Alcohol Abuse. Sue also was a founder of the Community Health Council of Lebanon County in 1996 and served as a member of the organization for 14 years. In 2003, she became a founding member of the Lebanon County Commission for Women and served on the board for 6 years. During her tenure she served in various capacities, last serving as treasurer.



SPONSORS

Special thanks to these sponsors who collectively make this event possible.

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In too many instances, the march to globalization has also meant the marginalization of women and girls. And that must change.”

—Hillary Clinton

NATIONAL WOMEN'S

Women's Education - Women's Empowerment

Although women now outnumber men in American colleges nationwide, the reversal of the gender gap is a very recent phenomenon. The fight to learn was a valiant struggle waged by many tenacious women—across years and across cultures—in our country. After the American Revolution, the notion of education as a safeguard for democracy created opportunities for girls to gain a basic education—based largely on the premise that, as mothers, they would nurture not only the bodies but also the minds of (male) citizens and leaders. The concept that educating women meant educating mothers endured in America for many years, at all levels of education.

Pioneers of secondary education for young women faced arguments from physicians and other “experts” who claimed either that females were incapable of intellectual development equal to men, or that they would be harmed by striving for it. Women’s supposed intellectual and moral weakness was also used to argue against coeducation, which would surely be an assault on purity and femininity. Emma Willard, in her 1819 Plan for Improving Female Education, noted with derision the focus of women’s “education” on fostering the display of youth and beauty, and asserted that women are “the companions, not the satellites of men”—“primary existences” whose education must prepare them to be full partners in life’s journey.

While Harvard, the first college chartered in America, was founded in 1636, it would be almost two centuries before the founding of the first college to admit women—Oberlin, which was chartered in 1833. And even as “coeducation” grew, women’s courses of study were often different from men’s, and women’s role models were few, as most faculty members were male. Harvard itself opened its “Annex” (Radcliffe) for women in 1879 rather than admit women to the men’s college—and single-sex education remained the elite norm in the U.S. until the early 1970s. As coeducation took hold in the Ivy League, the number of women’s colleges decreased steadily; those that remain still answer the need of young women to find their voices, and today’s women’s colleges enroll a far more diverse cross-section of the country than did the original Seven Sisters.

The equal opportunity to learn, taken for granted by most young women today, owes much to Title IX of the Education Codes of the Higher Education Act Amendments. This legislation passed in 1972 and enacted in 1977, prohibited gender discrimination by federally funded institutions. It has become the primary tool for women’s fuller participation in all aspects of education from



*National Women's
History Project*

HISTORY PROJECT 2012

scholarships, to facilities, to classes formerly closed to women. Indeed, it transformed the educational landscape of the United States within the span of a generation.

SOURCE: National Women's History Project

The NWHP is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, educational organization committed to recognizing and celebrating the diverse and historic accomplishments of women by providing information and educational materials.

2012 Honoree Quiz

Can you answer these questions about this year's National Women's History Project Honorees?

1. Who founded Troy Female Seminary in 1821?
2. Who created family reading programs to help educate Hispanic children?
3. Who was the first northern African-American woman to go South to teach in the Freedman Schools?
4. Who is the Executive Director of the International Museum of Muslim Cultures?
5. Who taught Helen Keller how to be able to participate in the world?
6. What member of the Tsalagi (Cherokee) Nation was one of first women of her Nation to receive a Ph.D.?
7. What is the title of the Education Amendments that mandated equal opportunity for females and males in all fields of federally funded public education?
8. In what year was this legislation written?

Congratulations if you can! If not visit the www.nwhp.org to learn more!

Answers to History IQ Quiz

1. Emma Willard
2. Gracia Molina de Pick
3. Charlotte Forten Grimké
4. Okolo Rashid
5. Annie Sullivan
6. Brenda Flyswithhawks
7. Title IX
8. 1972

Past Hall of Fame Inductees

2011

Wanda Bechtold
 Judy Feather
 Carol Hollich
 Amy Mazella di Bosco
 Rev. Marilyn Nolte
 Betty Ross Conner
 Lorraine Royer
 Carol Saltzer
 Redith Snoberger
 Linda Summers
 Rose Walmer
 Tina Washington

2010

Ginger Beamesderfer
 Lisa Brown
 Betty Eiceman
 Peggy Hengeveld
 Katherine Hoopes
 Ann Lasky
 Alleta Schadler
 Mary Louise Sherk
 Donna Williams
 Laurie Yurejefcic
 Sharon Zook

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Lori Brandt
Mary Burchik
Carol Checket
Joyce Dissinger
Donna Eberly-Lehman
Harriet Faren
Susan Funk Klarsch
Rep. Mauree Gingrich
Cindy Heisey
Bridget Hofman
Barbara Kauffman
Donna Moyer
Jenny Murphy-Shifflet
Karin Right-Nolan
Kathy Snavely
Dawn Shultz
Pam Tricamo
Kathy Verna
Jessica Wright



LEBANON COUNTY
Commission for Women

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