

Women's Leadership Council

The Catalyst

Spring 2009

LEADING THE COMMUNITY

WLC SPONSORS AWARD & MENTORSHIP OF RISING STARS



Congratulations, 2009 YWCA Rising Star recipient, **Autumn DeLellis!** This award recognizes a woman, 30 years of age or under, who exhibits early professional success and the potential to obtain marked achievement along

with demonstrating a willingness to help others, especially women and girls. Viewing this award to be directly related to WLC's mission, we are proud to provide sponsorship that supports a scholarship for award recipients to continue their education. Leading the way, WLC provided this year's sponsorship with the caveat that the scholarship be doubled to \$2,000 annually. Furthermore, Autumn is invited to participate in the meetings and activities of the Women's Leadership Council. Our Executive Committee is looking forward to providing ongoing mentorship and support to Autumn through the year, inviting her to spend individual time with our members who are leading businesses, working and volunteering in positions in which she aspires to learn.

4th Annual Women of Influence Breakfast October 22, 2009...JOIN US!

Save the date, Thursday, October 22, 2009, from 7:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m., Four Points by Sheraton, Greensburg, PA. Over 150 women will come together to hear about how we, together, can influence others to improve conditions for women of all ages in our community. This year's Premier Sponsors include **Excelsa Health** and **Eden Hall Foundation**. Mark your calendars. If you are interested in attending, contact Cyndi Phillips at 724.834.7170 ext. 11.

FAITH IN ACTION UPDATE

Since May 2006, WLC membership donations supported the development and growth of four Faith in Action sites – responsible for engaging nearly 200 volunteers and providing supportive services to over 150 of our communities' frail elderly. Without Women's Leadership Council members, the lives of the frail, elderly recipients would be more isolated and at a higher risk of out-of-home placement. Express your support to our generous women leaders!

Interesting Fact: About 75% of Faith in Action (FIA) volunteers are our communities' active and engaged retirees, retired from work – not from living.



VOLUNTEER WITH YOUR LOCAL FAITH IN ACTION

Our area Faith in Action sites would benefit from your time and support. Get to know what it takes to support seniors first-hand. Contact your nearest FIA and find out how you can help:

WHAT'S INSIDE?

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Alle-Kiski Faith in Action
724.224.3199

Brush Creek Area Faith in Action
724.863.5950

Forbes Trail Faith in Action
724.327.3353

Jacob's Creek Area Faith in Action
724.887.4641

Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers of Fayette
724.438.0709

Laurel Area Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers
724.539.4357

NEW FACES FOR WLC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Kim Benson



Kim Benson has been a member of the WLC since 2006. She is the District Plant Engineering Manager for UPS's Laurel Mountain District. Kim oversees 30 facilities in Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Maryland. She is a member of the Society of Women Engineers (SWE) Pittsburgh Section, the National Vice President of Finance, Alpha Sigma Alpha Sorority and a member of the Board of Trustees, Alpha Sigma Alpha Foundation.

Margaret V. Hildebrand



Margaret (Maggie) Hildebrand has been a member of the WLC since 2006. She started her company Input Services in 1988, providing bookkeeping services for small businesses. Maggie is currently serving as President of the Ligonier Valley Business and Professional Women's Club, Treasurer of District #3 BPW (covering Westmoreland and Allegheny Counties). She is a member and Treasurer of the Heritage United Methodist Church Choir and a member of the Worship Prep Team at HUM Church. Maggie was the Ligonier Valley BPW and District #3 BPW Woman of the Year in 2006.

Holly C. Kauffman



Holly Kauffman joined WLC in 2007 and appreciates the work done by the Faith in Action for the aged community in our area. She has worked for Allegheny Energy for 25 years and now oversees construction of a multi-million dollar infrastructure as Director, Transmission Projects. She holds a BS in Computer Science from Penn State University, an MS in Industrial Engineering from University of Pittsburgh and an MBA from Duquesne University.

Sharon Wise



Sharon Wise has been a WLC member since 2007. As the Director of Building Services for Allegheny Energy, Sharon is responsible for the management and maintenance of Allegheny Power facilities, office and duplicating services, customer bill inserting and mailing across a four-state service territory.

Allegheny Energy, Inc.

Susan Boggs
Donna J. Bursick
Suzy Clevenger
JoAnn Clutter
Anne Grealy
Jeannine Hammer
Mary B. Hostert
Holly C. Kauffman
Patricia A. Koos
Andrea Kopcak
Carol Krysevig
Donna Latimer
Robin E. Malott
Amy L. Newhouse
Suzanne M. Paouncic
Kathryn L. Patton
Laurie K. Peddicord
Jennifer L. Petrisek
Yvonne Phillips
Mary Ann Podrat
Hope E. Riddle
Mary Lou Sekeras
Rebecca Shaver
Jeanine Trumbetta
Sharon K. Wise

AmeriServ Financial Bank

Marcy Karasek

Arbor Industrial Supplies Inc.

Mary Catherine Motchar *
Barbara Tomko

Attorney

Margaret Zylka House

Barnes & Noble

*Marty McGuire **

Bononi & Bononi, PC

Michele Bononi

BPU Investment

Management, Inc.

Denice Robinson

California University of PA

Sheri Boyle

**Center for Schools
in Communities**

Lynda Martino

**Commonwealth
of Pennsylvania**

Patricia Brymn

Complete Reporting Services

Kristine Samloff

CPA

Lynn A. Beck

DAMD, PC

Sandra E. Davis

Elliott Company

Alicia C. Pollard

Excela Health

Marcia Cook
Marilyn L. Daniels
Kristi Fellers
Peggy Hayden
Robin Stahl Jennings
Ellen Katter
Laureen Lowry
Alexandra Pieper-Jones

Eye Center, The

Dr. Rhonda Laughlin *

First Commonwealth Bank

Faye Rosatti

In Its Place

Jody Adams

Individuals

Cushie A. Dickert
Glenda L. Dickson
Phil A. Dymond *
Beverly Hahn
Carolyn Holland
Joan Kotjarapoglus
Janet Monzo
Malissa Morrow
Rene Painter-Claypool
Ann Pauley
Pia van de Venne
Ruth C. Walters

Input Services

Margaret Hildebrand

IQ, Inc.

Barbara VanKirk *

Jeannette Specialty Glass

Kathleen Sarniak

**Kelly, Sparber, White &
Associates, LLC**

Maryann White

Kennametal Inc.

Judith Bacchus
Martha A. Bailey
Cheryl Bush
Holly E. Marcheck
Helen O. Patricia
Latanyua T. Robinson
Roxanne Turner

Liberty Closet Systems Inc.

Michelle Walters

Liberty Tax Service

Margaree Pertle

Livengood & Associates

Linda Mascara Livengood

Loughran, Mlakar & Bilik

Meagan Bilik DeFazio

Maher Duessel CPAs

Betsy Krisher *

National City Bank

Kimberly D. Kramer

Panner-Hufford & Associates

Dorothy T. Hufford

Prudential Preferred Realty

Marilyn Davis

**Quatrini Rafferty,
Attorneys at Law**

Tereasa A. Rerko

Respironics, Inc.

Eileen R. Sisca

S&T Bank

Rebecca L. Davidson

Saint Vincent College

Dawn Edmiston

Seton Hill University

Tracy Bartos
Sherri Bett
JoAnne Boyle
Susan E. Eichenberger
Mary Ann Gawelek *
Jayne H. Huston
Sondra Lettrich
Cynthia Magistro
Lee McClain
Laura Sloan Patterson
Marilyn Sullivan-Cosetti

Sewickley Spa, The

Dorothy Andreas-Tuel

Simply Strung Together!

Christine E. Hoke

Saint Gobain Advanced Ceramics

Mary Lou Hamacher

Saint Vincent College

Carla Zema

Surge Point HR Talent LLC

Donna Perone *

**United Way
of Westmoreland County**

Dana Bauer
Janice S. Gebicki
Nancy E. Kukovich
Cyndi Phillips
Margie Solochier

**University of Pittsburgh
at Greensburg**

Sharon P. Smith

UPS - Laurel Mountain District

Tandy Bailey

Kim Benson

Jacqueline Fajt
Amanda Kovtun
Lynn A. Parchuke
Doris A. Smith
Dorinda Stepoli
Kimberly Wyant

Westinghouse Electric Company

Tina M. Parton *

Westmoreland County

Barbara W. Lightcap
Kim Ward

Westmoreland County

Community College

Debi Williams

Wordcrafters

*Gwen Loughner **

** Founding Giver*

Executive Committee

**MANY THANKS FOR
YOUR LEADERSHIP!**



CONGRATULATIONS BARBARA VANKIRK!

ATHENA AWARD® WINNER 2009

Barbara VanKirk, owner of IQ, Inc., of Murrysville is this year's Winner's Circle ATHENA Award winner. Her entrepreneurship as an owner of an IT services company and commitment to her community has earned this great honor. WLC is proud to have another member receive this award which is given to women leaders in communities across the country.

Past ATHENA Award® recipients include three additional WLC Founding Givers and Executive Committee (EC) members, including the inaugural winner and WLC Vice Chair, Phil Dymond (1997), WLC Vice Chair, Mary Ann Gawelek (2005), and Mary Catherine Motchar (2006), in addition to UWWC President, Nancy Kukovich (2007), and WLC member, Margaree Pertle (2004).

Another WLC Founding Giver and EC member, Donna Perone, received the Seton Hill University Entrepreneurial Excellence Award in 2007, following in Mary Catherine Motchar's example (inaugural winner, 1997), and joining WLC members Rebecca L. Davidson (2005) and Dorothy Andreas-Tuel (2006).

Mission: To improve lives by mobilizing the caring power of communities.
United Way of Westmoreland County
Serving Westmoreland and portions of Armstrong and Fayette Counties



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United Way Women's Leadership Council

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