

# our voice

eliminating racism  
empowering women

**ywca**

WINTER 2010

YWCA York

## our mission

**The YWCA is dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all.**

### YWCA Welcomes Temple Guard Drill Team

In January 2009, the Temple Guard Drill Team became the newest youth program of the YWCA. The Temple Guard Drill Team is a mentoring program based on discipline and focus that trains youth in grades K-12 in military-style boot camp marching and dance. Drill team members perform twice a month (on average) across the mid-state.

“Temple Guard breeds confidence and self-esteem. The kids become leaders instead of followers. They know their own worth,” said Mike Smith, program coordinator and director of youth services.



▲▲ Temple Guard Drill Team in action.

On October 29, Mike was honored at the Harrisburg-Hershey Hotel where he won a 2009 Jefferson Award for outstanding community service. We are proud to have such a great mentor and community advocate working with our youth!

YWCA York welcomes the Temple Guard Drill Team and looks forward to many performances.

YW

### YWCA Proudly Offers Comprehensive Victim Services

In 2009, the Victim Assistance Center (VAC), the local premier provider of counseling, education, and legal services to victims of sexual assault and other violent crimes, merged with the YWCA. VAC and the ACCESS-York domestic violence program comprise the Victim Services Department of the YWCA, serving more than 3,600 people last year. Now, instead of seeing two separate logos for these programs, a combined logo will be used to emphasize that the same VAC services are being offered to the community even though the program has been integrated into the YWCA.



The merger has served to increase capacity, advance mission, and ensure long-term viability of services to victims of all violent crime.

▲▲ New logo for victim services of the YWCA York.

As a comprehensive victim services center, we offer:

- 24-hour hotlines
- an emergency safe shelter
- transitional housing
- information and referrals
- hospital response
- individual and group counseling for adults and children
- legal advocacy
- medical advocacy
- abuse and sexual violence prevention education
- community outreach.

For more information about VAC victim services, call 717-854-3131 or 717-846-5400 for ACCESS-York services.

YW

## **Thank You, Donors!**

Many thanks to **Columbia Gas** for a generous donation of \$7,500 to support the YWCA's Quantum Opportunities Program (QOP). This after-school program for male and female students in grades 9 - 12 focuses on development in the following three areas: education, community service and life-skill development. Students earn money for continuing education while participating in programs that teach new skills. The program includes tutoring, homework help, software programs to improve skills and computer labs for school projects.

YWCA York has been awarded a \$100,000 Economic Crisis Gap Grant from the prestigious **Kresge Foundation**. Funds from this grant will be directed to general operations, enabling the organization to continue serving those most in need. This is the second time YWCA York received a grant from the Kresge Foundation. In June 2008, YWCA York was awarded a \$300,000 challenge grant to support its capital campaign.

**YW**

## **Sertoma Raises Money for Hanover Shelter**

The **Sertoma Club for Still Waters** of Hanover recently held a Barn Dance to benefit the YWCA's Hanover shelter. A great time was had by all, and over \$18,000 was raised for improvements to the building.

Many thanks to the Sertoma Club and the community for their continued support of our mission of peace and empowerment.

**YW**

## **YWCA Holds 117th Annual Meeting**

The YWCA York held its 117th annual meeting at the Strand-Capitol on Wednesday, November 4, 2009. More than 125 people attended the event, which featured the premiere of *The Renaissance of Olde Towne East*, a documentary about the revitalization of an 18-block neighborhood in York City. Attendees enjoyed free soda and popcorn, giving the meeting a movie-theatre-like ambience.

The YWCA's Volunteer of the Year Award was given to the Olde Towne East Neighborhood Association for their outstanding work on the Community Renaissance project. Richard Miller, manager of the project, was named a Red Cross hero because of his efforts to mobilize the York community to donate needed goods for the families who lost their homes in a fire on East King Street earlier this year. Service pins were given to Ladawn Brown (15 years), Cris Maddox (25 years), and Barbara Woodmansee (25 years) for their years of service to the YWCA and ACCESS-York.

This annual meeting was one of the best-attended meetings in recent years. If you were unable to attend but would like to see a copy of *The Renaissance of Olde Towne East*, a copy is available on our website—[www.ywcayork.org](http://www.ywcayork.org). Our 2008-2009 Annual Report is also available on our website, or call 717-434-1756 if you would like to receive a hard copy.

**YW**

*Volunteer of the Year: Olde Towne East  
Neighborhood Association. ▶▶*



## **Capital Campaign a Huge Success**

The capital campaign was a tremendous success, surpassing its goal of \$6 million by \$500,000. The money raised supports the ongoing renovation projects at our main Market Street facility. The transformation allows the YWCA to achieve a long-anticipated dream of expanding its programs to accommodate growing needs.

Many, many thanks to all who have donated to the campaign, as well as our Honorary Chairs, **Anne and Bob Kinsley**, and our Co-Chairs, **Jody Appell and Coni Wolf**.

Stay tuned for the Grand Opening Celebration to take place in the spring. We hope to see you all there!

**YW**

**If you would like to adopt a family in one of our shelters or a family in need this holiday season, please contact Roxanne King at 845-2631 x215 or [rking@ywcayork.org](mailto:rking@ywcayork.org).**

**YWCA Hosts 60th Annual Halloween Parade**

The YWCA York hosted the 60th Annual York Halloween Parade on Sunday, October 25th in downtown York. The parade stepped off at 2 p.m., beginning at the York Expo Center to West Market Street and finally ending at East Market and Lehman Streets. The title sponsor of this year's parade was Heritage Hills Golf Resort. AvalancheXpress, a division of Heritage Hills featuring snow tubing, gave out 1,000 coupons to parade goers for their upcoming season. Almost 120 floats, groups, and/or vehicles participated in the march. Thousands of onlookers lined the streets.



▲ ▲ Photo by: Paul Kuehnel—York Daily Record/Sunday News

**FRIENDS OF PARADE:** Mary Anne Bacas, Linda & David Davidson, Ginger & John Finlayson, Jan and John Klindedinst, Frances McCabe, Judy & William Simpson, Debra & Steve Stock, Baker Door Company, C.S. Davidson, Inc., Sheetz, Inc., Frito Lay, Stanton Leboutz, M.D., Lebo Skin Care, and Sweet Willows Creamery.

**YW**

**Child Care +  
Education = A Winning  
Combination!**

If you or someone you know needs child care, why not choose a program that includes quality education as well? The YWCA York has four Early Learning Centers, serving 600 children across York County. The centers, for children aged six weeks to five years, include the following locations: Manchester, East Market Street, East King Street, and South Queen Street. All of our centers participate in Keystone Stars, a high-quality early childhood education initiative.

The YWCA also offers after-school programs for school-age children at the Manchester, East Market Street, and South Queen Street locations. For more information on enrolling a child in one of our centers, please call the YWCA at 717-845-2631.

**YW**

**YWCA Racial Justice**

One core part of the YWCA's mission is eliminating racism. The YWCA works hard to achieve this mission through programming and events to bring awareness to this issue. In 2009, the YWCA's racial justice program reached over 1,300 people.

**Race Against Racism** - This annual 5K run/walk is an event that unites people of all races and ages to demonstrate the community's commitment to eliminating racism. Over 600 people participated in the event this past spring!

**Anti-Bias Curriculum** - The YWCA has four early learning centers and two school age child care programs. All of these programs include anti-bias curriculum that takes an active approach to challenging bias and prejudice, teaching children to respect each other's differences. This curriculum reaches approximately 600 children.

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Day** - Every January, the YWCA York's Youth Program and Penn State York Campus collaborate

to celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr. and his peaceful legacy. Each year, the program offers a keynote speaker and an opportunity for youth to break out with members of the community to discuss issues important to them surrounding civil rights and racial justice/awareness. More than 50 people attended this year's event.



On Tuesday, October 27, the YWCA York was honored at the York City Human Relations Commission's 28th Annual Dr. Frederick D. Holliday Equal Opportunity Conference.

YWCA York was given the Commissioner James McDonald Special Award for our racial justice work in the community. Our programs that teach understanding, tolerance, and acceptance

to children and the *Race Against Racism* event were a few of the reasons cited for the YW's award.

Stay tuned for additional events and information coming to our website or contact Tiffany Wimmer at [twimmer@ywcayork.org](mailto:twimmer@ywcayork.org).

**YW**

320 East Market Street  
York, PA 17403  
717-845-2631  
info@ywcayork.org

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**GO GREEN!** If you would like to view our newsletter online and be notified of YWCA events and schedule changes via e-mail, please send an email with your name to **NewsAlerts@ywcayork.org**. We will save paper while still keeping you informed! Thank you.

**Domestic Violence Awareness Month: A Time for Reflection and Action**

October is always a busy month for the ACCESS-York program of the YWCA, which organizes dozens of activities to spread the word about the prevalence of domestic violence and the resources available to help. The theme this year was Ending Domestic Violence Begins With Me. Throughout October, our staff and volunteers distributed 27,000 purple ribbons, collected hundreds of pledges to end domestic violence, delivered 18 speeches for the United Way Campaign, and conducted 27 educational programs throughout the community and in schools. A highlight this year was a town hall meeting to call the community to action to end domestic violence. A panel of experts, including ACCESS staff members, presented information about the warning signs of domestic violence and options for families living in abusive homes.



▲ ▲ Commissioners Chris Reilly, Don Hoke and Steve Chronister, and Police Commissioner Mark Whitman

According to the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence, there were 144 domestic violence related fatalities in Pennsylvania in 2008. Ten of those fatalities occurred in York

County, making our County the third highest in the state. This year is proving to be equally violent with five deaths being attributed to domestic violence. If you or someone you know needs help, please call our hotline at 717-846-5400.

We appreciate the ongoing support from our community partners as we work together during Domestic Violence Awareness Month and throughout the year to make our community safer. Some of our partners include the York County Commissioners, The City of York, the Temple Guard Drill Team, Chief Tom Gross, the York County District

Attorney's office, DLA Enterprise Support Susquehanna, PA (U.S. Defense Department), and the York Jewish Community Center.