

Western Gateway Gazette

Northern Berkshire Business and Professional Women

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January, 2010



A message from your president...

Dear Members,

The new year is upon us with all of its promise. January is a time of new beginnings-- a time for saying goodbye to the old year and to embrace what we all hope will be a wonderful 2010.

Whether or not you're renewing your annual pledge to all of the resolutions most of us make; now is a great time to reflect on all of the progress that we women have made and the part that BPW has played in this process.

Now is the time to stay engaged and let your interest and participation in NBBPW shine. Involve a friend by giving her information about NBBPW, or better yet, bring her to a meeting as your guest so that she may learn about BPW first hand .

At the Holiday party you chose the Member of the Year by secret ballot, and at our January meeting we will surprise and honor this special woman. I'd like to thank Fran Czarnecki for her hard work as chair of this committee. I'd also like to thank Inna Gertje and Pauline Davis for the wonderful job

they did as hostesses for the party. The decorations were lovely and the anagrams were hard. Thanks too, to Doris Anthony who played the piano so beautifully and Nancy Lescarbeau for bringing her to the party. Thanks also to the officers who provided the door prize gifts, and to everyone of you who made the party a fun success . January brings an interesting program with the speaker, Pharmacist Angela Park, talking with us about the American pharmaceutical world. Come and listen. Angela may let us in on what your doctor may not tell you. Make a resolution to come to the meeting and to bring a friend. Wishing you and yours all of the very best in this new year, may you find health, success and happiness in all that you do.

*Best Personal Wishes
Dot Ransford*



January Meeting

Date: January 27, 2009
Location: Williams Inn
Program: 1. Angela Park,
Your Pharmacist & You
2. Member of the Year
3. Scholarship Award

Menu: Soup de Jour

Choice of:

1. Roast Sirloin of Beef
2. Baked Scrod with Crumb Topping
3. Pasta Primavera with Mixed Vegetables

Dessert: Cheesecake & Melba Sauce

Coffee, Tea

Cost: \$25.00
Hostess: Dorothy Ransford
413-663-6514

Please remember: Reservations are due by the Friday before the meeting. If you haven't been called, call one of the hostesses above. Also, you are responsible for reservations made and not honored. We must pay for meals ordered.

*Networking – 6:00
Meeting opens –6:30
Dinner – 6:45*

Guests are welcome!

IMPORTANT WEBSITES!!

www.bpw/usa.org
www.bpw/ma.org
www.northernberkshirebpw.org



UPCOMING EVENTS

January 18 – M. Luther King, Jr. Day
January 27 – NBBPW General Meeting



January Birthdays

Do you have a January birthday? Let us know.



from BPW Foundation...

New Unemployment Rules Benefit Women.

Women currently collect far less unemployment insurance than men, because the reasons they leave a job are considered "voluntary." [Seven out of 10 women leave jobs because of a loss of child care, relocation of a spouse or other work-family conflicts.](#) In the majority of states, such workers are ineligible for unemployment insurance benefits because they are considered to have "voluntarily left the labor force." The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, which President Barack Obama signed in February, provides \$7 billion to [help states extend jobless benefits to low-income workers, part-time workers and those with work-family conflicts.](#)

BPW Foundation's Top Successes in 2009

Equal Pay for Equal Work.

The Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act was the first piece of equal pay legislation signed by a president since 1963. And Lilly's bill was also the [first legislation signed by newly elected President Obama.](#) BPW Foundation helped start the equal pay movement: we were at the signing of the Act in 1963 and we were at the signing in 2009. But there's still more to be done.

Tell Your Senators to Pass the Paycheck Fairness Act!

Women Look Good in Green.

Through a grant, BPW Foundation distributed \$240,000 to four training sites across the country— in Wyoming, Pennsylvania, California and Vermont—to [help women train for and attain green jobs in their communities.](#)

More Than an Apple a Day.

BPW Foundation [supports health care reform](#) that recognizes the diverse needs of women, families and small business as they strive to create successful workplaces. The current health care system is failing women, families and small businesses and that is why we need comprehensive reform now. We need: affordability, equality of access and care, stability and security, shared responsibility and support for prevention.

Dear GI Jane.

BPW Foundation collected letters from many generations of women veterans and sent them to women service members currently in Iraq and Afghanistan. These letters of advice offer first-hand knowledge of how to best transition from the military to the civilian workforce.

[Caring for Caregivers.](#) Families of both wounded veterans and active service members can access 26 weeks of unpaid leave to care for their wounded family member. With BPW Foundation's support, Congress approved the first-ever expansion of the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) extending leave to family members caring for wounded service members or a family member preparing for deployment. This year, Congress expanded the military family leave provision of the FMLA to a more broadly defined category of military family members.



January, 2010 Bizarre and Unique Holidays

Month:

- National Blood Donor Month
- National Braille Literacy Month
- National Hobby Month
- Hot Tea Month
- National Oatmeal Month
- National Soup Month

Week Celebrations:

2nd Week Letter Writing Week

Each Day:

- 1 [New Year's Day](#)
- 2 [Run up the Flagpole and See if Anyone Salutes Day](#)
- 3 [Festival of Sleep Day](#)
- 3 [Fruitcake Toss Day](#)
- 3 [Humiliation Day](#)
- 4 [Trivia Day](#)
- 5 [National Bird Day](#)
- 6 [Bean Day](#)
- 6 [Cuddle Up Day](#)
- 7 [Old Rock Day](#)
- 8 [Bubble Bath Day](#)
- 8 [Male Watcher's Day](#)
- 9 [Play God Day](#)
- 10 [Peculiar People Day](#)
- 11 [Step in a Puddle and Splash Your Friend's Day](#)
- 12 [National Pharmacist Day](#)
- 13 [International Skeptics Day](#)

- 13 [Make Your Dream Come True Day](#)
- 14 [Dress Up Your Pet Day](#)
- 15 [National Hat Day](#)
- 16 [National Nothing Day](#)
- 17 [Ditch New Years Resolutions Day](#)
- 18 [Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday](#), celebrated on the third Monday
- 18 [Winnie the Pooh Day](#) -The Birthday of Winnie's author A.A. Milne
- 19 [National Popcorn Day](#)
- 20 [National Buttercrunch Day](#)
- 20 [Penguin Awareness Day](#)
- 21 [National Hugging Day](#)
- 21 [Squirrel Appreciation Day](#)
- 22 [National Blonde Brownie Day](#)
- 23 [National Pie Day](#)
- 23 [National Handwriting Day](#)
- 24 [Beer Can Appreciation Day](#)
- 24 [Compliment Day](#)
- 25 [Opposite Day](#)
- 26 [Spouse's Day](#)
- 27 [Chocolate Cake Day](#)
- 27 [Punch the Clock Day](#)
- 28 [Fun at Work Day](#)
- 28 [National Kazoo Day](#)
- 29 [National Puzzle Day](#)
- 29 [National Cornchip Day](#)
- 30 [National Inane Answering Message Day](#)
- 31 [Backward Day](#)
- 31 [Inspire Your Heart with Art Day](#)