



A WOMAN'S PLACE

Community Organization.
Community Issue. Community Change.

Community Connection

NEWSLETTER a publication of A WOMAN'S PLACE

Providing comprehensive, community-based service, shelter, support, advocacy, outreach, education, and training to victims of domestic abuse and violence and their children and the community for more than 30 years.

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Chocolate Lovers' Fantasy Celebrates 15 Years

A Woman's Place (AWP) is bringing out the fine crystal to celebrate the 15th anniversary of *Chocolate Lovers' Fantasy*. This event, which has become AWP's largest annual fundraiser, will be held, once again, at the majestic Tyler Hall on the campus of Bucks County Community College on Saturday, February 13, 2010.

This decadent affair helps to raise the much needed funds that allow us to continue to offer a wide range of services and support to victims of domestic violence, their children, and the community. Featuring an elegant spread of chocolate desserts measuring more than 55 feet long, this evening is one of indulgence. Enjoy hors d'oeuvres, wine, beer, entertainment, and both a silent and live auction alongside other members of the community.

Chocolate Lovers' Fantasy is a perfect pre-Valentine's Day date, a fun-filled Girls' Night Out, or just a great reason to join others from the area to support an organization that provides essential support and services to victims of domestic violence, their children, and the community.

For more information on *Chocolate Lovers' Fantasy*, tickets, and sponsorship packages, visit our Web site at www.awomansplace.org or call 215.343.9241 x108. •



Community Connection is published three times a year by A Woman's Place to inform supporters and partners of news and events at the organization. For additional information, please contact jsalisbury@awomansplace.org.

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A Woman's Place (AWP) is a feminist, community-based social change organization committed to ending intimate and familial violence for all. We do this by: 1) Enhancing safety for victims, families, and communities; 2) Securing justice for victims; 3) Engaging the community and building its capacity to respond to and prevent domestic abuse and violence; and, 4) Working to change institutions, systems, and individual practices that condone and perpetuate violence and abuse.

Get on the GoodSearch

Help support A Woman's Place (AWP) automatically the next time you want to search online. It's easy with GoodSearch.com, the Internet search engine dedicated to social change.

1. Go to www.goodsearch.com



2. Enter "A Woman's Place" in the "I'm Supporting" box
3. Click "Verify"
4. Then, enter what you're searching for (just as you would on any Internet search engine) in the search box and click "Search the Web" (your search is powered by Yahoo!)

That's it! Each time you do a new search, GoodSearch.com will automatically donate money to AWP. You pay nothing; money is raised from online advertisers partnering with GoodSearch.com. You only enter A Woman's Place the first time you search – next time you go to GoodSearch.com, AWP appears automatically in the "I'm Supporting" box. You can even track the donations by clicking on the "Amount Raised" button. Go on, get on the GoodSearch! •



Message from Executive Director Donna J. Byrne *Women and White T-Shirts Can Change the World*

More often than not, when we turn on the news or open up the paper we see stories of war, murder, natural disasters, and unthinkable acts against humanity. At our last staff meeting, one of our medical advocates shared the story of Leymah Gbowee with us. This story began with war, murder, and civil unrest but ended on a much more positive note.

Gbowee, a Liberian woman and social worker, united a group of women against a dictator and restored the rule of law to their county.

In 2002, Liberia was in the middle of a civil war between the government, run by Charles Taylor, and warlords battling to overthrow him. It was a result of economic inequality, the control of natural resources, and rivalries among ethnic groups. More than 200 thousand people had lost their lives and one out of every three had lost their home. The women of the county – housewives, fishmongers, farmers – were so desperate to stop the fighting they took it upon themselves to do so. Led by Gbowee, "the market women" armed with only plain white t-shirts used a tactic once used by the women of ancient Greece: No peace, no sex.

This movement united both Christian and Muslim women together. They were able to meet with Charles Taylor in person and send him the message that "the women of Liberia...we are tired of war. We are tired of running. We are tired of begging for bulgur wheat. We are tired of our children being raped. We are now taking this stand, to secure the future of our children because we believe as custodians of society, tomorrow our children will ask us, 'Mama, what was your role during the crisis?'"

During the meeting with Taylor, "the market women" we able to force him to make the promise that he would sit down with the warlords in Ghana. A delegation of Liberian women then went to Ghana to continue to put pressure on the warring groups. Nearly 200 women gathered outside the "Peace Hall" where the talks were being held and looped arms to block the men who were not making any progress from leaving. When security forces were sent to arrest them, all of the women threatened to strip off their clothing. The men in the peace talks saw this happening, and related this group of women to their mothers and grandmothers. To keep them from taking off their clothes they continued with their talks. Two weeks later, the terms of a peace treaty were announced.

Since then, Taylor was forced into exile, and Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, the first female elected head of state in Africa, was voted into office. Sirleaf is now the President of Liberia. In June, Gbowee was awarded the prestigious Profile in Courage Award from the John F. Kennedy Library in Boston, Ma. Her story, along with the stories of all of the women who took part in the movement has been made into a feature length documentary called "Pray the Devil Back to Hell." It is now being shown around the world and was awarded "Best Documentary Feature" at the Tribeca Film Festival.

On Wednesday, October 28, 2009 at 7:00 p.m., AWP will be hosting a screening of "Pray the Devil Back to Hell" at Doylestown United Methodist Church on Swamp Road. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Jenny Salisbury, Development Associate, at 215.343.9241 x108 or by e-mail at jsalisbury@awomansplace.org. Join us to watch this moving film and pay tribute to an extraordinary group of women who have exhibited the courage and strength to save their children and bring peace to their country.

Donna Byrne
Executive Director

Candlelight Vigil to Remember Victims of Domestic Violence

As part of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, A Woman's Place (AWP) will once again hold a candlelight vigil to remember those who have fallen victim to domestic violence and honor those who have survived. The vigil will be held at Rolling Hills United Methodist Church in Pipersville on **Thursday, October 15, 2009**. The event will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary to be followed by dinner. If you would like to attend, please RSVP to Jenny Salisbury at 215.343.9241 x108 by Monday, October 5. •



AWP Executive Director Recognized for 25 Years of Service!

Congratulations to A Woman's Place (AWP) Executive Director Donna J. Byrne!

At a Board meeting for the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence (PCADV) on October 8 and 9, Donna will be recognized for her 25 years of service. (She must have started this work when she was 10!) Prior to being appointed AWP Executive Director in March 2005, Donna was the organization's Director of Service for five years, overseeing operations of the

25
YEARS OF
SERVICE

shelter, medical and legal advocacy projects, hotline, and the counseling and outreach programs. She served as Interim Executive Director for three months prior to accepting the position permanently. Through her work, Donna lives her continued commitment to the vision and mission of AWP and ending violence against women through community-based support, service, advocacy, and outreach. •

The History of the Awareness Ribbon

You see them every day – ribbons in various colors, symbolizing awareness for a number of causes. They are worn as pins, stuck on cars in the form of magnets, and embroidered on various articles of clothing and accessories. They support our troops, acknowledge the AIDS epidemic, reinforce the need for a cure for breast cancer, and convey the powerful message that there is no place for domestic violence in our communities.

Displaying colored ribbons as a symbol dates all the way back to Shakespeare. In *Othello*, Desdemona refers to an early version of the song "All Round My Hat, I Wears a Green Willow." The lyrics include, "If anyone should ask, the reason why I wears it, tell them that my true love is far, far away."

In the 1970's, the yellow ribbon was adopted as the symbol for the wives of American hostages being held in Iran. Again, in 1991, the yellow ribbon reemerged for soldiers in the Gulf War and AIDS activists adopted the red ribbon for "our boys dying here at home." Jeremy Irons helped to catch the awareness of the national press by wearing a looped red ribbon to the Tony Awards.

The following year, the pink ribbon became the international symbol of breast cancer awareness and many other charitable organizations adopted their own, leading the *New York Times* to declare 1992 as "The Year of the Ribbon."

It is unclear the exact history of the purple ribbon and its adoption as the symbol of domestic violence awareness, but across the country it has become a way for family, friends, and community members to honor and remember those that have lost their lives at the hands of someone they once loved and trusted. This October, in recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, display a purple ribbon either on your front door, on your car, or on your clothing. Take the opportunity to send the message that there is no place for domestic violence in Bucks County. •



The Purple Ribbon is a widely recognized symbol for Domestic Violence Awareness.

Get Involved!

Volunteering at AWP is not charity. It's an investment in social change and a safer community. To learn more about volunteering and upcoming training dates in October, November, and January visit www.awomansplace.org or contact Angela Hiller, Community Educator, at 215.343.9241 x109 or by email at ahiller@awomansplace.org. •

SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, February 13, 2010



TYLER HALL on the campus of Bucks County Community College

For more information, visit www.awomansplace.org or call 215.343.9241 x108

Medical Advocacy in October

HEALTH CARES ABOUT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Health Cares About Domestic Violence Day is a nationally recognized awareness-raising day that takes place annually. This October, Bucks County will also celebrate the long-standing collaborative relationship between A Woman's Place (AWP), the only domestic violence organization in Bucks County, and the health care community that exists through the Bucks County Health Improvement Partnership (BCHIP) Domestic Violence Task Force. The Domestic Violence Task Force is working to increase the awareness of domestic violence and to promote universal screening and counseling of patients in health care settings in Bucks County.

Domestic violence is a public health epidemic that affects 4 million women in the United States. One in four women will experience domestic violence in her lifetime. One in four teenagers, boys and girls, experience violence in a dating relationship before graduating from high school. The costs of intimate partner violence have been estimated to annually exceed \$5.8 billion, including \$4.1 billion in direct health care expenses.

Medical studies link long term effects of domestic violence and abuse with a myriad of health problems including smoking, diabetes, obesity, eating disorders, and substance abuse. Early identification and treatment of victims and potential victims benefit health care systems in the long run. Emerging research from a health care cost study on domestic violence indicates that hospital-based violence intervention will reduce health care costs by at least 20 percent.

To learn more about the intersection of health care and abuse and violence, look for *Health Cares About Domestic Violence* displays at your area health care provider or contact AWP at 215.343.9241 for more education and information. •

One in four women in our society is affected by domestic violence or abuse. In honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, join us for an interactive discussion about how to help a friend or family member affected by domestic violence or abuse on Wednesday, October 28 from 6 p.m. – 7 p.m. at the Upper Perk Outpatient Center on 663 and Geryville Pike. You can make a difference! earn the "do's" and "don'ts" of working with a victim and the services available in our county. For more information, please contact Jenny Sandler, Community Educator, at 215.343.9241 x110 or by email at jsandler@awomansplace.org.

Founding Member of PCADV Honored

Co-founder and former executive director of the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence (PCADV), Susan Kelly-Dreiss, is among 10 outstanding American women to be inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame in 2009.

Ms. Kelly-Dreiss served as the first and long-standing executive director of PCADV – the nation's first state domestic violence coalition – from 1976 until her retirement in October 2008. She was one of a handful of strong and courageous Pennsylvania women who came together in 1976 to establish the coalition and ensure that the doors that have been opened in every corner of the Commonwealth will never again close on a battered woman and her children.

With her induction, Ms. Kelly-Dreiss joins another group of strong and courageous women – the 226 other "Women of the Hall" whose distinguished achievements and contributions

serve as inspiration and innovation for future generations.

The induction will take place in October at the Hall of Fame Headquarters in Seneca Falls, NY – the location of the first women's rights convention in 1848.

Visit www.greatwomen.org for a list of the 2009 inductees and to learn more about the National Women's Hall of Fame. •



Shop Smart with eScrip

Register your Genuardi's Club Card at eScrip.com and help support A Woman's Place (AWP)!

A percentage of your club card purchases will be contributed to AWP each time you shop – you can also register your debit and credit cards.

1. Go to www.escrip.com.



2. Click on **1 – Sign Up – It's Free!**

3. Select Group ID and enter AWP's ID **2399142** into the box. Then click Search.

4. Click on **A Woman's Place** under the name listing.

5. Click **Next**.

6. Type in your information – note only the fields marked in red are required.

7. Select **Genuardi's** from the drop down menu under Card Type.

8. Enter your Genuardi's Club Card number under Card Number and click **Next**.

9. If you choose, register additional credit and debit cards. If registered, those cards also will earn money for AWP when used. Select the Card Type and enter the Card Number and Expiration Date in the appropriate boxes. Click **Next**.

10. On the next screen, you'll be prompted to enter additional retail cards, if applicable, for Macy's, Linens-n-Things, and Office Max. Please note the eligibility restrictions at the bottom of the screen. Enter the cards if applicable, then press **Next**.

11. Read through the Confirmation screen. Press the **Edit** button in any section to make changes to the information you entered. When finished, click **Confirm** at the bottom of the screen.

12. Record your Support Identification Number for your records. That's it! Thank you for registering with eScrip and supporting AWP!



No Tricks, Only Treats... Discount Days are Back!!!

You have spoken and we have listened!

Full Circle Thrift has rolled out its fall inventory along with reinstating Discount Days! Full Circle Thrift offers a great selection of quality men's, women's, and children's clothing along with unique housewares. Stop in for all of your back to school clothing needs!



On Saturday, October 3, Full Circle Thrift will host a Halloween party from 12 p.m. – 3 p.m.. Join us for a day of fun, treats, and check out our collection of fantastic Halloween costumes. Marcia Weikert, Full Circle Thrift's own costume expert, will be available to help you put together the Halloween costume to win any contest.

For more information on Full Circle Thrift, store hours, and donation items that are accepted, visit our Web site at www.awomansplace.org. All proceeds of Full Circle Thrift directly benefit AWP. •

Discount Days are back!

Receive **50% off** on the following days:

Tuesday	Housewares
Wednesday	Senior Citizens (Ages 55+)
Receive 50% everything in the store.*	
Thursday	Women's Clothing
Friday	Men's Clothing
Saturday	Children's Clothing

Coupons not valid on discount day items.
* Discount does not apply to vintage items, costumes, jewelry, or boots.

Full Circle

Extended Hours

Monday	10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday	10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday	10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Thursday	10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Friday	10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Saturday	10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Sunday	12 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Donations accepted during store hours.

Community Event

Public Forum on the Needs of Women and Girls in Bucks County: A Conversation with Our Legislators

The Women's Advocacy Coalition invites you to participate in a conversation with our local, state, and federal legislators.

Friday, October 2, 2009
 8:00 – 10:00 a.m.
 Bucks County Intermediate Unit No. 22
 705 N. Shady Retreat Rd., Doylestown, PA 18901

We will develop a dialogue on how we can all work together to promote and implement legislation and social policy to create the positive changes we seek to improve the quality of life for the women and girls of Bucks County. The four priorities are: 2-1-1, economic self-sufficiency, health care, and housing.

RSVP to 215.345.5440. •



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www.awomansplace.org

Return Service Requested

Remember to designate AWP
A Member Agency



of Bucks County

A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the PA Department of State by calling toll free, within PA 1 800 732 0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.
 — PA Commission of Charitable Organizations

AWP WISH LIST

- Gift Certificates:** movie theatre, supermarket, K-Mart, Sears, drug store, gas cards
- Household Products:** laundry and dish soap, fabric softener, trash bags, household cleaners, paper towels, brooms, mops, light bulbs
- Personal Products:** cosmetics, hair and skin products, feminine hygiene products, hand sanitizer, baby wipes, diapers (sizes 4 and 5)
- New Linens:** mattress pads, plastic mattress pads, twin and full size sheets, pillows, bath towels
- Medications:** cold/flu/allergy medications, Tylenol, Advil, antacids, vitamins
- Foods:** juice boxes, school snacks, vegetable oil, canned chili, canned pasta
- Clothing:** men's, women's, and children's gently used clothing (all sizes)
- Special Needs:** two comfortable arm chairs, bus tokens, batteries, can openers, irons, small alarm clocks, fans
- Technology:** Quark Xpress 7.0 software
- Facilities:** new carpet, window blinds, roof repair, general contracting work, painting

United Way

To direct your **United Way of Bucks County** gift to A Woman's Place (AWP), write in AWP's name and address as follows:

A Woman's Place
P.O. Box 299
Doylestown, PA 18901

For **United Way of Southeastern Pennsylvania** (Philadelphia and Montgomery counties), **AWP's code is 592**.
 For **United Way of Tri-County** (Northern New Jersey), **AWP's code is 003191**.
 For all other United Way chapters, please write in AWP's address as listed above.

Thank You!

Yes, I want to make a difference!

Enclosed is my/our gift of: (circle one)

\$1,000 \$500 \$250 \$125 \$35 Other \$ _____

Donors will be recognized in our annual report. Please print your name(s) as you wish it to appear.

I/We wish to remain anonymous. **Return to: A Woman's Place**
 P.O. Box 299 • Doylestown, PA 18901

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Check if new address.

Thank you for your gift.

- I am interested in volunteering.
- I would like to include A Woman's Place in my will.
- I am interested in a speaker for my church, school, community, or people.

Thank you for using your envelope, it saves AWP more than \$800 in printing costs.

29-1

Recycle your used cell phones and toner cartridges at AWP! Proceeds benefit AWP.