

## YWCA Brings Mammography Van to Lawrence

With underwriting from Lawrence native **Cynthia Mohr**, the **YWCA** brought **Boston's Mammography Van** to our campus May 12th, courtesy of **Mayor Thomas Menino**, to offer breast cancer screening services to low-income and uninsured women in our community. The screening day was tremendously successful and a result of collaborative efforts between the YWCA of Greater Lawrence, the **Mayor's Health Task Force**, **The Dana-Farber Cancer Institute**, the **American Cancer Society**, **Harvard School of Public Health** and **MassCONNECT**.

"The day's screenings attracted more people than we thought we could reach," explained **Minerva Grullon**, YWCA Women's Health Coordinator. Together with **Vilma Lora**, YWCA Director of Women's Services, they organized this screening with **Milagro Grullon** of the Mayor's Health Task Force and **Blanca Figueroa** of **ACS**.

In total, 44 women were screened. Of these women, 93% were age 40 to 64, with 95% of Hispanic/Latina decent with 86% residing in Lawrence.

*Continued on page 4*

## Tribute to Women 2007

On May 10th, the YWCA presented the 24th Annual **Tribute to Women** awards luncheon at the Andover Country Club. **Senator Susan Tucker** served as Emcee, with Keynote Speaker **Evelyn Murphy**, President of The WAGE Project, as we honored 23 outstanding women from the Merrimack Valley area. Sponsored by **Philips**, **BCBS of Massachusetts** and **Wyeth Biotech**, the event drew more than 425 guests together to join in celebrating the professional and community achievements of these remarkable women, as well as to raise important funds for the YWCA of Greater Lawrence.

For a complete listing of Honorees and event sponsors, please see pages 2, 6 and 7.



## YWCA Tribute To Women, *continued*

The 2007

Tribute to Women Honorees are:

**Priscilla Bartle of Andover**

*Professional Center for Child Dev.*

**Barbara Brandt-Saret of Methuen**

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*Family Service, Inc.*

**Dianne Sforza of Haverhill**

*Alcatel-Lucent*

**Diane Silva of Beverly**

*Enterprise Bank*

**Judith Wise of Methuen**

*Girl Scouts of Spar and Spindle Council, Inc.*

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### *Wine Tasting*

*2007*

### *Honorary Chairperson*

The YWCA is very pleased that **Len Wilson**, Regional President of Sovereign Bank, will serve as the Honorary Chairperson of our 2007 Wine Tasting & Auction. A long time supporter of the YWCA and its programs, Sovereign Bank has participated in many events as a sponsor through the years, including **Tribute to Women** and our **Wine Tasting & Auction**. Come join Len and the YWCA as we celebrate with wine, food and auctions Friday, October 19th. For more information, visit our website at [www.ywcalawrence.org](http://www.ywcalawrence.org)

## Private, Community, State & Federal Grants

The YWCA wishes to thank the following entities for their generous grants thus far in 2007:

**Mass Executive Office of Health & Human Services** [\$100,000], **Mass Office of Victim's Assistance/Victim's of Crimes Act** [\$55,000], **Mass Dept. of Early Education and Care** [\$20,000], **The Gable Family Foundation** [\$12,000], **American Cancer Society** [\$10,000], **Josephine G. Russell Trust** [\$10,000], **United Way of Mass Bay** [\$10,000], **Artemas W. Stearns Trust** [\$8,000], **Lenny Zakim Fund** [\$7,500], **Essex County Community Foundation's Summer in Greater Lawrence Fund** [\$5,500], **Agnes M. Lindsay Trust** [\$5,000], **Dana-Farber Cancer Institute** [\$5,000], **Essex County Community Foundation Women's Fund** [\$4,000], **Citizens Bank Foundation** [\$2,500], **Kiwanis Club of Greater Lawrence** [\$2,000] and **Methuen Lions Club** [\$125].

## Donate on-line at [www.ywcalawrence.org](http://www.ywcalawrence.org)

### YWCA Staff

**Rebecca A. Hall**

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**Lee Woodbury**

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**Willie S. Day**

### YWCA Board of Directors

**Cynthia Cross**, President

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### YWCA Information

YWCA of Greater Lawrence

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Lawrence, MA 01840

Phone: 978-687-0331

TTY: 978-686-8840

Fax: 978-689-4080

[www.ywcalawrence.org](http://www.ywcalawrence.org)

## News & Notes

### Susan L. King Scholarship Awarded

The YWCA of Greater Lawrence and the Women's Leadership Network at Alcatel-Lucent are pleased to announce the recipient of the 2007 Susan L. King Scholarship, **Rebekah Drehman**. Ms. Drehman is a June graduate from Chelmsford High School, and will be attending Geneva College in Pennsylvania this fall as an engineering major.

Ms. Drehman was selected from an outstanding group of applicants and will receive \$3000 to apply toward her college studies. Her qualifications and achievements embody the scholarship criteria including academic achievement, community activism and social awareness. In addition to being a Girl Scout troop leader, Ms. Drehman earned the coveted Girl Scout Gold Award. She also is a member of several academic honor societies, a Sunday School teacher, a camp counselor, and has volunteered for numerous community based projects, including mission trips to West Virginia and Mississippi post-Hurricane Katrina.

This memorial scholarship was created after Lucent Technologies engineer **Susan L. King** succumbed to cancer. To honor and remember her drive, creativity and compassion, committee members seek scholarship winners who embody these traits.



Left to right: Angela Boheim, SLK Committee Chairperson, Rebekah Drehman, Rebecca A. Hall, YWCA Executive Director.

### New Board Members!

The YWCA has accepted the nomination of the following members to the Board of Directors:

**Jan Dik**, Edward Jones, Inc.

**Zora Warren**, Education Consultant

*For information on becoming a Board Member, please contact Cindy Cross at 978.687.0331 x1029.*

### Easter Giving

On Friday, April 6th, Michelle Skafas and Melissa Marrama from Borislow Insurance Agency delivered 20 gorgeous, custom-tailored Easter Baskets to the residents of our three housing initiative programs at YWCA Fina House.

The beautiful baskets contained food items and fresh fruit treats for each resident to make a delicious Easter dinner, and toys for their children. Creative generosity is typical of Borislow Insurance, as Michelle and Melissa have spear-headed such donations for the YWCA for both Thanksgiving and Easter.

On-hand were YWCA Fina staff members: Linda Comeau, Housing Director, Kathy McCabe, Teen Living Program Director, Marcy Desarden, Social Worker Coordinator and Migdalia Gonzales, OASIS Case Manager.



Left to right: Migdalia Gonzalez; Marcy Desarden [holding baby!]; Kathy McCabe; Michelle Skafas; Melissa Marrama; Linda Comeau.

# Spotlight on Women's Services

Continued from page 1

"MassCONNECT and the Mayor's Health Task Force serve as key players in bringing - and continuing to bring - resources, creativity and leadership to this initiative," explained **Karen Ruderman**, Program Director for Boston's Mammography Van at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

"The generous support and contagious passion by Ms. Mohr for this initiative made it possible to bring the van to Lawrence," Ms. Ruderman added.

The next van day is scheduled for Saturday, August 25th at the Senior Citizens Center, 155 Haverhill Street, Lawrence. Currently there are 60 women awaiting eligibility confirmation for this screening.

For more information, please contact Minerva Grullon via phone at 978.687.0331 x1048 or via email at mgrullon@ywcawlawrence.org.

## Latino Family Festival!

Presented by **El Mundo** newspaper, Fenway Park will host the 35th **Latino Family Festival** on Sunday, July 8th from 12pm to 6pm.

Mayor **Thomas Menino** will kick-off the event, which will include activities and entertainment for the whole family.

As a special fundraising promotion, **El Mundo** will sponsor a Dunking Booth, with all proceeds contributed to **YWCA Women's Services**. Columnist Joel will be the 'dunkee' with YWCA staff members handling the booth.

Tickets cost \$15, \$25 or \$40 per person and can be purchased at the Red Sox box office or at [www.Redsox.com](http://www.Redsox.com).

Come out and support YWCA Women's Services and help raise funds!

For more information, please contact **Vilma Lora** at 978.687.0331 x1032 or [vlora@ywcawlawrence.org](mailto:vlora@ywcawlawrence.org).

## WAGE Project at YWCA

On May 24th, **Gloria Dzeichowski**, Economic Empowerment Coordinator at YWCA's Fina House, established a WAGE Club on campus. The WAGE Project, Inc., whose president **Evelyn Murphy** spoke at our Tribute to Women event in May, is an organization established to end wage discrimination against women in the American work force.

"My goal is to unite women from different walks of life in the community; among them our staff and clients", Gloria commented. This program also fits into Gloria's goals to provide economic empowerment to clients in our housing initiative programs.

## Old Cell Phone?

Donate -  
Don't Discard!

The YWCA of Greater Lawrence participates in a cell phone recycling program that funds our Women's Service programs.

Donate your old cell phone at one of our donor locations:

In Lawrence:

Paul Mitchell Salon  
Unik Wireless  
YWCA

In Andover:

Royal Jewelers  
@ Wireless

In North Andover:

Curves

Thanks to all of our regular drop off locations!

To host a cell phone drive at your workplace, call Women's Services at 978-687-0331.

*Special thanks to  
Dianne Sforza  
at  
Atcatel-Lucent  
for coordinating  
cell phone  
collections! She's  
also one of our  
Tribute Honorees!*



## Media Workshop at YWCA

Sponsored by **MassCONNECT**, **Harvard School of Public Health**, **Mayor's Health Task Force** and **Dana-Farber Cancer Institute**, the YWCA hosted a day-long

Hospital and MassCONNECT representatives. The panel discussion was moderated by **Frank Vazquez** of Left Eye Creations.

# Spotlight on Youth Services

## Staff Focus: Carla Tracia

Athletic, graceful, dynamic and driven describe YWCA's Director of Health and Fitness, **Carla Tracia**.

Carla joined the YWCA this past spring after a vast and varied career as a ballerina, gymnastics coach, medical assistant and active volunteer.



While Carla has danced since toddlerhood and professionally as a child and teen at various venues throughout the U.S., she is also trained in gymnastics as teacher, coach and judge, as well as an active community volunteer.

Attending Springfield College, her career began at the YMCA of Melrose as Gymnastics Coach just after the birth of her first child in 1980. There she developed a complete sports program, and within five years, as Fitness Director, created a full-service sports center.

In 1981, she received her gymnastics Judges Training at Tufts University, and continues those duties today, which has included judging for local Olympic trials.

Between 1981 and 2002, Carla was inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame, coached men's gymnastics at M.I.T., women's gymnastics at Boston University – and found time to give birth to her second child!

She received her medical technician certification from Fisher College in 2002, and worked under a physician's license as a nurse. Earlier this year she realized that a change was needed, "I missed the kids," Carla recalls.

"When I interviewed at the YWCA, it was like coming home," she reflects. "As soon as I saw the banner '*Strong Alone, Fearless Together*', I knew this is where I wanted to be."

Here, her vision of health and fitness fits in perfectly with the YWCA's mission of empowering women. Her programs for kids, teens and adults, Carla shares, "...will help them connect mind, body, spirit."

Partnering with the **Esperanza School**, this fall Carla will be teaching their phys ed classes here at the YWCA, and has a roster of aquatic, yoga, dance, gymnastics and health programs beginning post Labor-Day for toddlers through adults.

For more information, or to learn how you can partner with Carla, email her at [ctracia@ywcalawrence.org](mailto:ctracia@ywcalawrence.org).

## Tec-KNOW! Conference

The ninth annual Girls Unlimited! / Zoe's Room **Tec-KNOW! Conference** was held at the Kennebec Valley Community College in Maine, April 7th. YWCA Computer Teacher, **Dianne Fields** brought nine girls from our after school computer program to the event.

The conference, designed to inspire girls about math, computers, money and business, began with a Keynote address by **Gabrielle Melchionda**, owner and president of Mad Gabs!, who spoke about her own business adventures. Through a variety of mediums, the girls learned what it takes to be financially viable by creating their own business.



From left to right: Jackie Dupont, Program Coordinator Hardy Girls/Healthy Women; Sharon Muwanguzi; Rosmarlin Morrobel; Erin Reilly, Zoe's Room Co-Founder [front holding baby]; Rachael Guerrero; Marianne Caceres; Kaley Noonan, Zoe's Room [back center]; Jamilette Javier; Xabriera Jiminez; Vini Nair, Zoe's Room Co-Founder; Elies Pena; Paola Samboy; Cheyanne Vancoppenolle.

## New YWCA Fundraiser!

**Flowers by Elena** is helping the YWCA Youth Services Program with a creative fundraising campaign. Purchase flowers by phone or in person, mention the YWCA, and receive a 5% discount! Flowers by Elena will donate 10% of the purchase price to the YWCA. We all benefit! So for all your floral needs - and to help the YWCA - visit:

### Flowers by Elena

95 Broadway [Rt 28]

Methuen, MA

978.683.4482

Contact:

Alfredo Garcia at 978.683.4482 or via email at

[alfredo@univision.com](mailto:alfredo@univision.com)

## Camp Y Wood - Enroll Now for Summer Fun!

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## Sponsors of the 2007 Tribute to Women

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**PHILIPS**

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# Make a Donation Today!

Please use this form to send in a donation to the YWCA. Your support helps us provide services for at risk children and youth, domestic violence and rape crisis survivors, transitional housing initiatives and women's health screening services for breast and cervical cancer and diabetes.

Enclosed is my tax-deductible gift made out to the YWCA of Greater Lawrence:

Payment  Check  Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

\$1000  \$500  \$250  \$100  \$50  Other \$  \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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My gift is in memory of \_\_\_\_\_ (name)

## Local Philanthropist *Bunny Maren* Honored

Colleagues and friends held a retirement celebration at the Andover Country Club on the evening of April 20th to honor the career and philanthropic achievements of **Bunny Maren**. In lieu of tickets, guests were asked to make a donation to the newly established **YWCA Bunny Maren Fund**. This fund will be used to support the educational goals of domestic abuse survivors currently in YWCA programs and at YWCA Fina House. Over \$3500 has been raised to date!

### Bunny Maren Fund Donors

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From left to right:

Janet Meyer, Ellen Yurko, Lynne Cox, Kathy Tarro, Terry McAnally, Bunny Maren, Yvon and Noella Cormier, Bernadette Gibson, Natalie Bradley, Mary O'Brien - YWCA Deputy Director for Women's Services and Gloria Dzeichowski - YWCA Economic Empowerment Coordinator.