



Volume 80, Issue 8

June 2010

Susan McNamara, President

Linda Robertson, Editor

Sarah Dunn, Technical Advisor

#### **AAUW Value Statement**

By joining AAUW we belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

#### **Mission & Diversity Statement**

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research. In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to members to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national orientation, disability, or class.

#### **Bethlehem AAUW Website**

[aauwbethlehempa.org](http://aauwbethlehempa.org)

#### **Mark Your Calendar**

June 1, 4 pm, Board of Directors' Meeting and Supper

June 19, 10 am to 5 pm, Bethlehem Garden Club Tour

## BETHLEHEM BRANCH

# BETHLEHEM BYLINES

## AAUW-BETHLEHEM EVERY-MEMBER SURVEY

### The Results Are In!

Thank you! We received above a 55% member response to your survey. This response far exceeds the average for most surveys and assures us that the snapshot of our Branch in this its 80<sup>th</sup> year is a reliable one. Through the survey we read your concerns, learned about your relationship with AAUW, confirmed our informal impressions about branch strengths and found where you find the most joy. All of the responses will help guide the board with the planning that fosters sustained vitality for the branch. Most immediately, it provided the basis for a May Board Planning/Visioning meeting, attended by both 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 members, as reported previously.

#### **Part I Confirms Strength**

Items in Survey Part I were organized in 3 groups: 1) Programs; 2) Study Groups; and 3) Communications, Projects, Outreach. In each category, those which garnered the highest percentage of "Important & Extremely Important" rankings are certainly those about which most of us will think, "Hey, no surprise here!"

- Reading the Newsletter, 95%
- Volunteering at Book Fair, 92%
- Study Group Membership, 84%
- Attending Monthly Programs, 75%

#### **Part II Confirms Importance of Branch to Members**

Similarly predictable were responses to the open-ended questions, "Why is AAUW-Bethlehem important to you?" and "What do you like most about AAUW/AAUW-Bethlehem?". Responses included: Interaction with friends; being a part of a group of educated women focused on empowering women and girls is stimulating; the AAUW Values Statement is at the core of our group, which I believe in 100%; a place to discuss women's issues!; it elevates women to higher levels of responsibility; it provides an outlet for members' energies for worthwhile causes for continuing education for educated women; members are friendly; I like the *Let's Read Math Group*.

A majority of respondents simply indicated "I can't think of anything," "I like everything about it" or left the question, "What do you like least about AAUW/AAUW-Bethlehem?" unanswered. Others pointed to topics of common concern, that drew "Not Very Important" or "No Opinion" responses, bear further attention.

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### **Bacchae**

Phyllis Wargo (610-797-9158)  
We are planning a September 9 trip to a new winery, *Mountain View Vineyard*, that recently opened north of Saylorsburg for and invite other AAUW members to join us. Joanne Wagner is doing the planning. If anyone is interested in going, call Phyllis or email her at [pdwargo@aol.com](mailto:pdwargo@aol.com), using "wine tour" in subject line so that she does not delete it. Phyllis will get back to inquirers with details.

### **The Out to Lunch Bunch**

Jeanie Keller (610-865-3543) All AAUW members are invited. The first luncheon will be at *Fiesta Ole*, Linden Street at Macada Road, at noon on September 21. Please make reservations with hostess Jeanie Keller by September 19th.

### **Our Sympathies**

To Myra Jones on the death of her father Harold Heimbrook at age 100 on May 5, 2010.

To the grandson of Fran Clark who died in May, 2010. Fran and Myra Jones together created and operated the highly respected pre-school program based at Messiah Lutheran Church for many years.

### **Congratulations**

To AAUW member Trisha Moller and her husband Mike Fraboni. Son Aidan was born May 18, 2010 at 12:57 am at St Luke's Hospital, Bethlehem. He was 20 inches and weighed 8 pounds, 11 ounces. Aidan has a big brother Owen.

To celebrate the first birth in AAUW-Bethlehem in MANY years, you may send your note of congratulations to the family at: 728 W. Market St, Bethlehem, PA 18018-5211.

## **Survey Results Continued from Page One**

Comments include: I'd rather pay more dues to branch than National; I do not like appeals for money; evening meetings; lack of response to meaningful programs; more younger members would benefit from and help to contribute to and continue the organization; need more younger members; not as diverse monthly programs as I'd like; I hope we will continue social activities; having fun is not off-message.

### **Program and Study Group Planning Opportunities**

Members provided some clear, planning guidance for the immediate and more distant future. Looking forward, members indicated greatest interest in programs on community issues (89%), humanities/arts (84%), education for women and girls (71%), and retirement/financial planning (59%). Seventy-seven percent of you indicated a willingness to support a branch program on short notice if the topic is timely as "Important".

Members stated the following topics would encourage them to attend a branch meeting: aging parents/death and dying; local, successful business-women explaining how they accomplished their goals and achievements; a retreat to foster intergenerational connectedness; follow-up on our high school scholars programs - where are they now. General themes mentioned frequently included history, travel, local color programs.

Forming new study groups in genealogy, travel, theater, films, and politics/current events interested respondents.

### **Looking Forward!**

These survey responses will be invaluable as your Board continues to address issues related to AAUW's vision and mission and as we develop our branch goals and priorities. As a start of planning for 2010-2011 and beyond, the board has recommended that we act to:

Increase member and community awareness of our 21st century AAUW national and branch organizations in the world of strategic planning by branding its mission and vision

- Expand branch use of multi-media tools for communication
- Better assist members in learning about new AAUW programs and resources
- Locate our programs, events, projects, and donations in the context of AAUW's vision and mission
- Build on our AAUW-PA Achievement Award recognition and our ability to increase membership annually
- Pay attention to members through friendly outreach and telephone contacts, transportation, and program greeters
- Continue programming in areas that sustain and engage all members
- Develop a Scholars Contact database and then use it
- Strengthen the committee system for program, membership, and special projects

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# Public Policy Notes

Compiled by Myra Saturen

## Supreme Court Nominee

AAUW is studying the nomination by President Barack Obama of United States Solicitor General Elena Kagan to the United States Supreme Court. In addition to having a distinguished law career, Kagan will be only the third woman to sit on the Court in all of its history. Kagan is called by AAUW Executive Director Linda D. Hallman a trailblazer; Kagan is the first female dean of the Harvard Law School and the first female Solicitor General. Her confirmation hearings will start on June 28.

## Extending Health Care Coverage to Adult Dependents

The provision extending health insurance dependent coverage to children under the age of 26 will go into effect no later than Sept. 23 of this year. While complaints have been raised around loopholes that allow insurance companies to charge higher premiums for children with preexisting conditions until 2014, some companies are working ahead of schedule to prevent 2010 graduates from experiencing coverage gaps.

AAUW believes that everyone is entitled to health care that is high-quality, affordable, and easily accessible. This position stems from AAUW's 2009-2011 Public Policy Program, which advocates: "increased access to quality affordable health care."

## U.S. Maternal Mortality on the Rise

According to a report released by Amnesty International, despite the fact that the U.S. spends more than any other country on maternal health care, maternal mortality is on the rise in the United States. Deaths from pregnancy and childbirth have doubled in the last two decades, and as many as one-third of pregnant women in the U.S. suffer from pregnancy-related complications—a majority of which occur among minority women and women living in poverty.

AAUW supports the right of every woman to safe, accessible, affordable, and comprehensive family planning and reproductive health services.

## Report

AAUW's recent report, [Why So Few? Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics](#), found that environmental and social barriers continue to block women's participation and progress in STEM fields. The lack of women and girls in STEM fields has significant implications not only for women's economic security, but for the overall U. S. economy as well. AAUW believes America COMPETES will improve opportunities for women in these technical fields, improve STEM education for all students, and increase America's global competitiveness.

## Paperback I

Myra Saturen (610-974-9385) On June 17 we will meet at a restaurant to discuss *Losing Battles* by Eudora Welty. The September book, which will be discussed at Marie Boltz's, is *Day after Night* by Anita Diamant.

## Paperback II

Shirley Daluisio (610-866-7919) On July 14 we will attend a production of Shakespeare's *The Merry Wives of Windsor* at DeSales University. On September 21 at 7:30 pm at Shirley Daluisio's home we start the fall season with a discussion of *One Thousand White Women: the Journals of May Dodd* by Jim Fergus. It is a fictional account of the U.S. government's controversial "Brides for Indians" project.

## Paperback III

Pat Michael (610-861-2948) We will lunch at Silver Creek Country Club June 8 and choose selections for next season. On September 14 Kit Jones will host a discussion of *The 19th Wife* by David Ebershoff.

## Mystery Paperback

On June 9 we will have a picnic supper and choose books to read in the fall. Contact Connie White (610-867-8398) for information and to make a reservation.

## Directory Update

Carey Patterson's new address is 2311 Kirkland Village Court Bethlehem PA 18017, and her phone number is 610-691-4806. Her email remains the same.

## Directory Editor Request

Notify me of any address or email changes so the AAUW yearbook is as accurate as it can be when it goes to print. Please print legibly when you fill out the dues form. Shirley Daluisio (610-866-7919)

## Dues Reminder

Treasurer Myra Jones is eager to submit her annual report to AAUW-National along with our 2010-2011 dues payments.

If you have NOT sent your dues, please do by June 15. Your check for \$75 can be mailed to Myra at 2229 Main St., Bethlehem, PA 18017-3700. Please call her with questions at 610-865-3419.

Myra does a great job and our cooperation gives her the support she needs to continue to do so.

## Book Fair Factoid

Karen Donald reports that through the years, Book Fair has generated \$608,137 in funds, the majority of which has been in support of the AAUW Scholars Program.

## Our AAUW Scholars Receive Additional Honors

Laura Grezzo of Freedom High School received a \$1,000 scholarship from UNICO, District IV, Bethlehem Chapter. UNICO is an Italian-American service organization. Laura will study neuroscience at University of Pittsburgh.

For the Freedom High School graduation, Demi Kostishion is the faculty-selected speaker and Laila Siddiqui is the class-selected speaker.

At the 2010 *Freddy* ceremony, Courtney Haines of Liberty High School won the award for outstanding performance by an actress in a supporting role as Miss Adelaide in *Guys and Dolls*.

# Another Big Year for Book Fair

Our 48<sup>th</sup> AAUW Book Fair was a huge success and grossed well over \$34,000!!! Everything was in our favor with good weather, terrific publicity, wonderful volunteers and a tremendous amount of donations and shoppers. Most of our funds will go toward scholarships for local women.

However, Book Fair is a lot more than making money for scholarships. We perform a wonderful service to the community by providing a place to donate used books. We also provide a venue for buying books, tapes, videos, CDs, and DVDs very inexpensively and there is always something for everyone. The book-loving public truly appreciates us! Shoppers came from as far away as Canada this year and always had favorable comments about our Book Fair. They have said it is the most organized fair they have been to with the nicest quality books and they liked the friendly and helpful workers.

On opening day of Book Fair there were at least 100 people waiting in line for our early opening (admission fee-\$10). At 10 AM when shoppers could come in free there were approximately 150 shoppers waiting. If you haven't been to opening day at Book Fair it is a wild experience not to be forgotten. Half-price day and Bag day (\$5 per bag) were also extremely busy! At the end of the Fair on Saturday several charitable groups came to get our unsold books for free and were very appreciative. There were very few books left to recycle this year.

We would to thank the following who made our success possible:

- City of Bethlehem for use of the building
- Bethlehem Recycling for our huge recycling container out front
- our dedicated community and AAUW volunteers who sorted and priced
- our hardworking committee chairmen and captains
- our husbands along with Barry and Cash who handled the heavy work (we can't have a Book Fair without them)
- the Lehigh Valley community for their donations
- our enthusiastic shoppers
- the local newspapers for excellent publicity

THANK YOU ALL!

*Karen and Nancy*

P.S. Start saving those books for next year!!!



From Left: Beth Rosenfeld, Jo-Anne Horn, Toni Halkias, and Linda Herkalo are among the more than 100 volunteers who worked Book Fair and send their thanks for your year-round support.

## Book Fair Leadership Changes

I am looking forward to serving as the new Book Fair Chair and was thrilled to be asked by our President, Susan McNamara. I value the confidence placed in me by Nancy and Karen and the membership and I hope my experiences as a longtime member and past President in the Allentown Branch and on the State Board will be put to good use.

The success of any branch endeavor continues to be the efforts of the membership and I sincerely look forward to all your ideas, suggestions, help and support. My phone is 610-264-4416.

At a past Association convention during a vigorous debate on changing the membership status, one member came to the microphone and said "I'm all for progress, it's the change I can't handle". There will be subtle changes, but it will still be our beloved Bethlehem Book Fair.



From Left: Nancy Disario, Linda Robbins, and Karen Donald.

*Linda Robbins*

## Going Places Announces Trip Visit To Textiles Exhibition

A trip is planned for July 22nd, a Thursday, to the Allentown Art Museum to view a new exhibition *In Stitches: Two Hundred Years of Quilting in America* that is opening June 19th at the Museum. The show focuses on the Museum's extensive collection of quilts and the history represented by such folk art. A smaller exhibition runs concurrently with the quilts and highlights sacred art sculptures of Asia and the three major religions of Jainism, Buddhism and Hinduism. With 10 participants, a tour can be arranged for the quilting show.

We will meet for lunch at 11:45 at Taste of Italy restaurant in the Airport Road shopping mall off Catasauqua Road and then carpool to the Museum, planning on arriving at 2 pm. Street parking is available with meters running \$1 an hour; we should be there 1 to 2 hours.

Maker unknown, American. detail  
Quilt, "Irish Chain," 1847, . Gift  
from Rosalind and Edwin Miller,  
1991.



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800-326-2289  
10 am to 5 pm

Or  
Connect@aauw.org

**Association Website**  
Www.aauw.org

“There is a fountain of youth: it is your mind, your talents, the creativity you bring to your life and the lives of the people you love. When you learn to tap this source, you will truly have defeated age.”  
Sophia Loren

**AAUW Board Meeting**

The Board of Directors of Bethlehem-AAUW meets June 1, 4 pm. Branch members may attend upon request. Call Susan McNamara at 610-216-4905.

**Membership Report**  
**New Life Members Announced**



We celebrate the Life Member status of Miriam Szanyi, Marie Boltz, and Cinda Jensen.

The Bethlehem branch has six new Honorary Life Members, that is, members with fifty years of membership in AAUW. Among the six are 3 former branch presidents: Cinda Jensen, Miriam Szanyi and Muriel (Micky) Parlin. Marie Boltz, Connie White and Cynthia Geiger-Bishop are also new Life Members ; all have been involved in service to the branch .

They joined AAUW after finishing their college studies. Some had just moved to Bethlehem and it was a way of making friends and being involved; some had grown up in Bethlehem and it was the right thing to do. All have contributed their time and energies over many years to the branch and its members and we thank them very much.

*Yvonne Payne*

**2010 Garden Tour**

Many AAUW members belong to the Bethlehem Garden Club; AAUW member Linda Robertson’s garden is on this year’s tour. Please plan to help support a good cause and buy a ticket!



The Bethlehem Garden Club presents *Paradise Found* on Saturday, June 19, 10 am to 5 pm, rain or shine. Eight private gardens in Bethlehem will be featured. Learn from the experts: visit a native plant garden (with a stucco, straw-bale garden shed with a living roof) and a collector’s garden (100s of unusual conifers). See espaliered evergreens, water features, a pool garden, and unique stone work.

Learn about native plants, invasive plants, the Master Gardener Program and the Hardy Plant Society. Stop by the large plant sale and raffle and enjoy complimentary refreshments.

Tour benefits *ShareCare: Faith in Action*, a group providing care-giving to the elderly or disabled and the Garden Club’s scholarship program.

Advance tickets at \$15 at: Moravian Book Shop, Dan Schantz, Pharo Garden Centre, Herbein’s Garden Center, and Neighbors Home & Garden. Tickets on tour day are \$18.

For information call 610-865-3454 or email Sharon at sharrondon@rcn.com.

*MaryPat Beebe*

## Our 2010 AAUW-Bethlehem Scholars

Reception attended by more than 100

At the May AAUW meeting we honored eighteen high school seniors and four non-traditional scholars with awards totaling more than \$26,100.

Members of the Scholarship Committee are Myra Jones, Norma Ferguson, Sandy Utley, Louise Wisser, Lynda Schoeninger, and Fran Bentkowski (chairman).



From Left: Desire Hough (Earlham College), Allison Fritts (Lock Haven University), Rebecca Burcaw (University of Pittsburgh), Megan Carolan (University of Memphis), Laura Grezzo (University of Pittsburgh), and Danielle Firestone (George Washington University).



From Left: Laura Kauer (American University), Lauren Koch (Tyler School of Art, Temple University), Rebecca Hillegass (Polytechnic Institute of New York University), Demi Kostishion (University of Pittsburgh), Julie Horwath (Cornell University), and Melissa Lee



From Left: Jasmine Williams (Cornell University), Laila Siddiqui (Johns Hopkins University), Cassandra Haines (Connecticut College), Courtney Haines (Rider University), Amber Weaver (Moravian College) and Rachel Schachter (Drew University).



Awards were given to these women whose education has been interrupted: Jenna Kim (Northampton Community College), Karen Sims (DeSales University), Kattia Krouse (Cedar Crest College), and Jessica Hinkle (DeSales University).

### Committee Chairs

Book Fair Co-chairs  
Nancy Disario 610-867-8533  
jdisario@hotmail.com

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Kate Sweeney  
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### Growth Act Reintroduced

In April the *Global Resources and Opportunities for Women to Thrive (GROWTH) Act* HR 5191 was introduced in the House of Representatives as part of a bipartisan effort to improve the financial standing of women in developing countries. By helping impoverished women start and grow businesses, enhancing women's land and property rights, increasing women's access to higher quality employment, and ensuring that the benefits of global trade reach poor women, the GROWTH Act seeks to enhance women's economic security. AAUW members took action to pass the Senate version of the GROWTH Act (S 1425) and will continue the effort on the House side.

### House Fails to Reauthorize

#### America COMPETES

In May, the House failed (261-148) to reach the 2/3 majority required under suspension of the rules to pass the *America COMPETES Reauthorization Act* (HR 5325) to authorize science and technology research programs for three years and support education and training in science, technology, engineering and math. Though the COMPETES Act was approved by both Republicans and Democrats in Committee, the bill was criticized on the House floor by Republican opposition as expensive and unnecessary. The House Democratic leadership pulled the bill from the floor following a Republican motion to recommit. AAUW supports promoting and strengthening science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, especially for girls and other under represented populations.

## A Window into the *Let's Read Math* Program



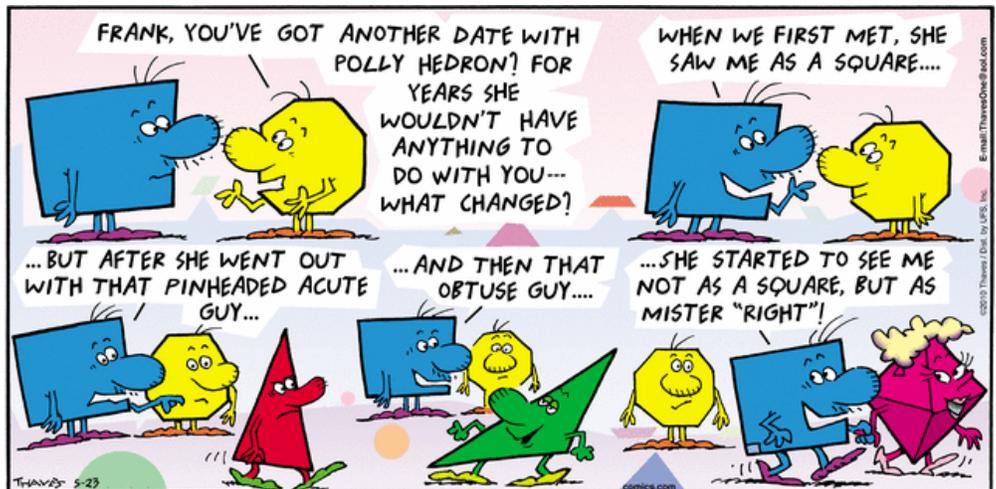
In an elementary class during the playlet for *How Big is a Foot?*



Working in the classroom with a hundreds chart.



Myra Jones and friend examine an illustration of a grouping exercise for the book *The King's Commissioners*.



Appropriate *Let's Read Math* humor!

## Survey Results From Page Two

Explore ways to expand relationships within the community

- Solidify the AAUW-Bethlehem/Moravian College Student Affiliate with increased communications and more joint programming
- Start planning now for the 50th anniversary of Book Fair/Scholars Program Celebration in 2012
- Study the possibility of a co-sponsored (with the Bethlehem Area Public Library) author's brunch or similar event
- Initiate a *One Book/One Community* project for 2011-2012
- Research how AAUW-Bethlehem could support organizations such as *Turning Point of the Lehigh Valley* in ways beyond traditional financial contributions
- Continue to support *Let's Read Math*

### Some Final Words

While these goals may seem ambitious, this *Looking Forward Plan* simply continues the high standards of commitment, vitality, and engagement that AAUW-Bethlehem has come to represent throughout its eighty year history.

The 2001-2010 year has been busy. We began by adding the well received September *Let's Read Math* meeting and followed this by an 80th Anniversary celebration luncheon. Our branch was well represented at the March Inter-branch luncheon. We juggled a Pay Equity Day event with our Moravian College Student Affiliates at the same time we were putting final touches on opening our impressively successful Book Fair. We celebrated Scholars Awards in impressively increased numbers. We increased our membership. We recognized with a Gateway to Equity Award the Maternity Program of Valley Youth House and gave over \$3,000 to *Turning Point of the Lehigh Valley* as well as generous contributions to AAUW-National's Education Foundation. AAUW-PA recognized us with several awards. Our year concludes with continued great press coverage.

These achievements do not occur without significant contributions of a committed membership and very dedicated Board members. We can all take much from our membership in AAUW-Bethlehem .

Over the summer I invite you to:

- Visit [www.aauwbethlehempa.org](http://www.aauwbethlehempa.org) to learn more about the survey
- Visit [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) (National website) and take the AAUW Experience Tour
- Google "One Book-One Community" to see the array of possibilities
- Get ready for a phone call from your officers or chairs for specific volunteer assignments for which you volunteered

Have a great summer!

*Susan McNamara*

### Thanks, Yvonne!

Yvonne Payne used her analysis skills to collate and compile the many pages of data received from members for the 2010 All-Member Survey.

Yvonne, along with Myra Saturen, Susan McNamara and Linda Robertson were responsible for designing the survey on behalf of the Board.

### Thanks, President Susan!



Susan McNamara did a wonderful job in her first term as AAUW-Bethlehem President. We thank her for her service and add a special hurrah for her willingness to take on a second two-year term. Let's all support Susan when she asks us individually to take on a responsibility or a project.

### AAUW Launches *Elect Her*

AAUW's *Elect Her* initiative acknowledges the need to build the pipeline of women running for office to diminish the long-standing political leadership gender gap. This initiative consists of a full array of programming to empower women from high school onward to view themselves as political candidates. Learn more by going to [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) and read *Elect Her* FAQ.

## **AAUW**

Linda Robertson  
1842 Kenmore Avenue  
Bethlehem PA 18018-3339

Time Sensitive Material

### *Let's Read Math* Travels to Merion PA **"Bart's Amazing Charts" Amazes Students**



Darlene Borst, Judy Lappen, Lynn Pettit, Jan Seaman, and Myra Jones traveled to Merion Elementary School on May 19, 2010 to present a *Let's Read Math* program to a class of second graders. Our AAUW-Bethlehem team made this long drive to surprise a special young lady. Rachel Lappen, Judy's granddaughter, had heard about the program, which combines math and reading, and was hoping to have her classmates experience the fun some day.

From September 2009 through May 2010 the *Let's Read Math* team presented programs to 7 schools, 24 classes, and 379 students. The team also demonstrated at the September branch meeting. Congratulations on a busy year. Coordinator Fran Bentkowski welcomes new volunteers and can be reached at 610-866-7462 or by email at [fbentkowski@verizon.net](mailto:fbentkowski@verizon.net).