January is National Mentoring Month!

A presidential proclamation has once again declared January National Mentoring Month. This year's theme is "Mentoring Works!". Since we know that mentoring does work, we're urging people to become more involved in mentoring: Be Someone Who Matters to Someone Who Matters.

There are a couple of important dates to keep in mind for January as we focus on the impact of mentoring:

- January 15, 2015: "Thank Your Mentor Day" - Take the time to think of someone who mentored you and be sure to reach out and say thank you.
- January 19, 2015: Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service - This is a day to shine a spotlight on volunteerism and to inspire people to learn more about mentoring.

January is the time to learn more about the role mentoring plays in your community. Look for more information on The Center Foundation's next mentor training. Remember, Mentoring Works!

Holiday from the Heart

The Center Foundation held its annual Holiday from the Heart Celebration on Thursday, December 18th at the Media Borough Hall Community Center. Volunteers from Blue Route Church in Media helped make the Community Center beautifully festive.
This year 75 children and their mothers were adopted by caring community sponsors like members of the Media Rotary Club and other families, friends, and businesses. Hundreds of presents were donated and beautifully wrapped by volunteers in The Center Foundation's office and families received their gifts at the celebration. Guests enjoyed arts and crafts, a delicious buffet, a winter holiday table, and a special story corner where kids delighted in tales of the holidays from different traditions. Of course, the highlight of the evening was a special visit from Santa! Everyone had the opportunity to sit on his lap and have their picture taken with him as a special keepsake.

Holiday from the Heart was made possible by the efforts of numerous volunteers and was sponsored by Aqua America and was also supported by 320 Market Cafe, Desert Rose, Wawa Food Markets, and Deals Variety Store. The Center Foundation also received beautifully knitted hats and scarves for participants made by the Granite Farm Knitters and adorably-dressed teddy bears from the Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (R.S. V.P.).

**Getting Connected Workshop**

At the workshop, "How to Get Connected: Networking, Food and Fun", presenter, Janet Long, Founder of Integrity Search and Widener University Career Counselor invited women to explore social and professional networking and taught some useful tools to make this important skill more easy. She demonstrated how everyone, even those who identify as "introverts" can make important connections within their communities that can lead to better opportunities.

Following "How to get Connected", Izzy Wintz, local author of the cookbook, *The Formerly Destitute Diva*, discussed tips about another
important thing that brings people together - good food. After a unique cooking demonstration, participants of the workshop were served a delicious bread pudding and each walked home with a generous gift from the author, a copy of her cookbook, full of family recipes designed for eating well on a budget.

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