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February 4, 2009

news from the ywca peoria

Happy Birthday!

Today is the Birthday of Betty Friedan!

Our very own Peorian, Betty would have been 90 years old today. We want to take this day and remember how hard Betty worked to make life better for all women. Betty was born and raised in Peoria and lived near Bradley Park.

Last week, President Barack Obama signed his first bill into law handing women's rights backers a victory by reversing a 2007 Supreme Court decision that made it harder to sue for pay discrimination. President Obama signed the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act into law. "Signing this bill today is to send a clear message: that making our economy work means making sure it works for everybody, that there are no second-class citizens in our workplaces", said the President.



Betty worked her entire life advocating for equal pay. She would have been "celebrating" this victory for all of us. Betty told us in the 1960's it was o.k. for women to work and have a family. She changed society. Betty worked tirelessly for political reforms to secure women's legal equality. The passage of the Fair Pay Act would be a cornerstone of her endeavors in her lifetime.

"Goodyear will never have to pay me what it cheated me out of," Lilly Ledbetter said at the White House reception hosted by Michele Obama. "I will never see a cent from my case. But with the passage (of the law) and the president's signature, I have an even richer reward. I know that my daughters and granddaughters and your daughters and your granddaughters will have a better deal."

Betty Friedan couldn't have said it better!

Please **help** support the *Betty Friedan Tribute Project* by making a donation to the YWCA. Pick up a donation envelope at the front desk or go on line at ywcapeoria.org.