

I o Woman

A Publication of the Friends of the Iowa Commission on the Status of Women • Vol. XXXII, No. 3, May/June 2002

**WOMEN
take charge of
your power
VOTE**

On June 4th, primary elections will narrow down the candidates who will run for election on November 5th. The ICSW recognizes that when women come to the table, women's issues get discussed. Furthermore, women's issues are everyone's issues, especially families'. The highest percentage of females ever serving in the Iowa chambers was 22 percent during the last two years.

Iowa is one of three states (with Alaska and Mississippi) to have never sent a woman to Congress or had a female governor. Iowa has had three lieutenant governors, three secretaries of state, one attorney general, and one secretary of agriculture who were female. No female has even ever run for election as Iowa's treasurer or auditor.

State of Iowa and federal candidates can be found at <www.sos.state.ia.us/elections/candidates>. Two of the 16 candidates for the US House are female, but none of the three US Senate or five Iowa Governor candidates running are female.

The 2003-4 Iowa General Assembly composition will greatly change with 17 Representatives retiring (three females)

--Continued on page 5

Invisible Again

The National Coalition for Women and Girls in Education (NCWGE) has released a report that found programs designed to help women and girls succeed in vocational education are rapidly collapsing, leaving many women and girls in jeopardy of losing out on important educational opportunities. NCWGE expressed concern that the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Education Act of 1998 — the federal law governing vocational education at secondary and post-secondary institutions — provides insufficient support for women and girls at a time when welfare time-limits have begun.

Invisible Again: The Impact of Changes in Federal Funding on Vocational Programs for Women and Girls rates individual states in their efforts to protect and strengthen programs that once counted on targeted money and provisions in the Perkins law to help women and girls gain the skills they need to achieve economic self-sufficiency. More than half of the survey respondents reported cuts in their funding, and many programs closed their doors, eliminating even the promise of progress for local women and girls.

Iowa was rated as a state where "programs are losing ground." Programs losing ground are those where funding, services and support are worse than under Perkins II and state and local agency support rated as needs improvement. Prior to the 1998 law, 17 programs assisted women at community colleges in Iowa. Today, only nine programs remain. During the first three quarters of FY2002, 954 people were served. An Iowa program reported that under the 1998 law, "Women, especially, must settle for limited training (if any) and low-paying jobs since there are no supportive services available."

"This report demonstrates that without targeted funding and provisions in the law, programs for women and girls fall by the wayside," said Jill Miller, executive director of Women Work! and chair of NCWGE's Vocational Education and Training Task Force. "The need for these programs is greater than ever, given the current economic climate."

"Federal policymakers need to develop policies that ensure single parents, displaced homemakers and students preparing for nontraditional employment have equal opportunities to succeed in vocational programs," added Leslie Annexstein, senior counsel at the National Women's Law Center and chair of NCWGE.

Prior to its reauthorization in 1998, provisions in the Perkins law aimed at ensuring equal access and opportunity in vocational education for women and girls had achieved great success. The law set aside money for programs to foster gender equity in vocational education and to provide various services, such as counseling, tuition assistance and child care. Each state was required to fund a full-time employee to coordinate efforts to overcome gender bias and stereotyping in vocational education. As a result of such provisions, single parents and displaced homemakers successfully entered education and training programs and found employment. Thousands of women moved into careers traditionally dominated by

--Continued on page 4

Legislation Impacting Iowa Women

April 12th was a whirlwind of activity for the General Assembly leaving the Governor with 59 enrolled bills for consideration including:

HF678 providing for mandatory participation in mediation in proceedings relating to custody of a child;

SF2205 outlining regulation of child care and child development homes;

SF2323 creating a registered nurse recruitment program and fund to be administered by the College Student Aid Commission (ICSW lobbied to include nurse aides and other direct care workers);

HF2592 deferring taxable income to certain businesses meeting criteria around starting up;

and

SF2326 the state general fund appropriation bill, which includes:

- \$11,458,412 for **HAWK-I** funds (increase from \$8.4 million in FY02);

- operation of the **women's prison** in Mitchellville at \$12,024,416 and 215.5 FTEs (FY02 was \$12.29 million with 236 FTEs); however, funding for improved **educational, career and technical training** for prisoners dropped from \$2.9 million in FY02 to \$100,000 in FY03;

- \$593,910 for **Legal Services Grants Programs**, while the ICSW supported \$950,000 (FY02 was \$670,000);

- \$6,414,788 and 134.54 FTEs for the **Iowa Juvenile Home**, along with the designation that beginning July 1, 2003 the IJH will serve only females;

- \$960,000 and 24 FTEs for FY03 for continuation of the **Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) program**;

- \$1,711,189 for **sexual assault and domestic violence programs**, while ICSW supported restoration of state funding to FY01 appropriation level of \$1,935,806;

- \$1,000,000 to maintain state funding for the **emergency assistance program** preventing homelessness through emergency payments of utilities and rent (ICSW

wanted \$3 million);

- continued \$1.3 million for adolescent pregnancy prevention grants to communities from TANF federal funds (lost \$281,000 in state funds compared to FY02); and

- continued funding for displaced homemakers/**Iowans in Transition program grants** through the ICSW, whose appropriation was reduced to \$349,126 for operating budget and for grants, and three FTEs.

Bills that ICSW opposed and, therefore, was happy were NOT enacted included:

SF93 repealing compliance with affirmative action programs; eliminates targeted small business (woman owned); repealing focused small business linked investments program; repealing contract set asides; and repealing comparable worth directives on wages paid to state employees;

SF2297 removing all references to "multicultural," "gender fair", or "global" in elementary and secondary education Code language; and

HF2264, the Woman's Right to Know bill, which was vetoed by the Governor.

ICSW also opposed **SF165** that was passed, and signed by the Governor, declaring English as the official language of the state and mandating that all state and local official government business be conducted in English language. (It is interesting to note that the Oklahoma Supreme Court ruled on April 2, 2002 that making English the Oklahoma state language was unconstitutional because it violates the right of free speech.)

ICSW supported the following three bills addressing violence against women that were enacted during the session: **SF2100** allowing protection from domestic abuse for persons who are in an intimate relationship;

HF2495 allowing issuance of a no-contact order to protect victims of 1st, 2nd, or 3rd degree sexual abuse, their family members, and others who reside with them UPON ARREST of the person accused of sexually abusing the victim;

and **HF2506** allowing issuance of a no-contact order against a defendant convicted of a sexual offense UPON RELEASE from jail or prison.

Lost completely in the shuffle were issues of importance like parity for mental health and substance abuse care coverage on insurance, developing a plan to achieve pay equity, prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, and prohibiting female genital mutilation.

The Governor called the legislators back into session on Monday, April 22, to work further on the FY03 budget.

Additional information can be obtained at www.state.ia.us/dhr/sw or from the Legislative Information Office at 515/281-5129.

Iowa Receives an "A"

The National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League (NARAL) awarded Iowa with an "A" grade in the 2001 *The Contraception Report: A State-by-State Review of Access to Contraception*. Only eight states received an "A" -- California, Georgia, Hawaii, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Vermont, Washington, and Iowa. The grades are based on the extent to which states promote women's access to contraception, taking into account state contraceptive coverage requirements and scope of denial, or conscience, clauses in state law.

NARAL contends that contraceptive coverage is basic women's health care. According to a 1998 Guttmacher Report on Public Policy, the average woman who wants two children will spend five years trying to get pregnant or be pregnant and will spend more than 20 years trying to prevent pregnancy. Most women will use contraceptives to avoid getting pregnant.

Iowa was given an "A" in part because of the 2000 law that requires health insurance plans that provide prescription coverage to provide equitable coverage for contraception, a law that the ICSW supported.

ICSW Welcomes New Commissioners

The composition of the Iowa Commission on the Status of Women is changing.

Established in 1972 by the Iowa Legislature, the Iowa Commission on the Status of Women is composed of nine citizen members appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. It is balanced by gender as well as political party affiliation. Two members of the Iowa Senate, two members of the Iowa House of Representatives, and the director of the Department of Human Rights also serve on the Commission *ex officio*.

Several Commissioners' terms have expired and new citizens have been appointed. Leaving the ICSW after completing two four-year terms are Lisa Green, Indianola, who has served as chair since May 2000 and Kathryn Burt, Marshalltown, who served as chair from 1996 to 2000. Also leaving is *ex officio* member Senator Patricia Harper, Waterloo. Iowans extend their gratitude to these outgoing Commissioners for their work and dedication to the women of this state.

Newly appointed members include Sue Mullins, Corwith; Susan Unger, Sioux City; and *ex officio* member Senator Matt McCoy, Des Moines.

Vicki Brown, Oskaloosa, and Matt Wissing, Davenport, have been reappointed. Commissioners continuing in their terms include Judge Brown, Fort Dodge; Francis Giunta, Dubuque; Holly Mennen, Mason City; Shawn Mullen, Des Moines; and Kim Painter, Iowa City.

Continuing to serve *ex officio* are Senator Gene Maddox, Des Moines; Representative Betty Grundberg, Des Moines; Representative Mary Mascher, Iowa City; and Department of Human Rights Director Rose Vasquez.

WACs Wanted

During World War II, Fort Des Moines hosted the formation of the first Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC), later renamed the Women's Army Corps (WAC), training 72,000 troops and commissioning the first female officers for noncombat duty between 1942-1945.

The Fort Des Moines Memorial Park and Education Center will honor the creation of the WAAC at Fort Des Moines, as well as the Army's first officer candidate school open to black male Americans in World War I. The Center will focus on the major contributions by our military in leading society toward racial and gender equality. Charlotte Nelson, Iowa Commission on the Status of Women executive director, serves on the Fort Des Moines Board of Directors.

As part of the project, organizers are hoping to identify women who were stationed at Fort Des Moines. If you were a WAC or know someone who was, please contact Charlotte at 515/281-4461, 800/558-4427, or charlotte.nelson@dhr.state.ia.us.

For more information about the project, go to www.fortdesmoines.org/index.html or call 515/282-8060.

Iowans in Transition Program Grants

The Iowa Commission on the Status of Women is issuing a request for proposals (RFP) for grant awards to fund programs providing services to Iowans in Transition.. Awards are contingent upon receipt of funding from the State of Iowa as appropriated by the 2002 Session of the 79th General Assembly and signed by the Governor. For these grant funds Iowans in Transition must meet the definition of displaced homemaker, single parent, or female offender.

"Although there will be a reduction in the total amount of state grant funds, it appears that grant money will be made available to pass through the Commission to programs. Therefore, we are proceeding with requests for proposals to insure that awards can begin July 1st," said Ellen Failor, grant coordinator.

Applicant **programs** must demonstrate that they will provide or are already providing services to people who meet the definition of an Iowan in Transition, as follows:

1. Is a displaced homemaker who has worked principally in the home providing unpaid household services for family members, and is or has been
 - dependent on the income of another family member but is no longer supported by that income, or
 - dependent on government assistance, or
 - supported as the parent of a minor; OR
2. Is a single parent; OR
3. Is a female offender, or a female who has a record of criminal offense.

The deadline for receipt of proposals in the office of the Division on the Status of Women in the Department of Human Rights is no later than 4 p.m. on Friday, May 24, 2002.

For details or to receive an RFP, contact the Iowa Commission on the Status of Women, Lucas State Office Building, Des Moines IA 50319; phone 515/281-4461 or 1/800-558-4427, or visit the web site at www.state.ia.us/dhr/sw.

Love Your Body Poster Contest

The National Organization for Women Foundation (NOW) is hosting a poster design contest as a part of the Love Your Body Campaign 2002.

NOW is seeking posters that respond to the onslaught of negative images that impact women's and girls' health. Posters should negate the attempt of advertisers to link smoking, drinking, and dieting to women's liberation, thinness, glamour, and self-worth. The deadline for entries is May 20.

Prizes will be awarded in four categories: open (nonstudent), college undergraduate or graduate, high school level, and elementary or middle school student.

The fifth annual Love Your Body Day will be held on October 16, 2002.

For specifics of the poster contest or more information on the Love Your Body Campaign go to www.nowfoundation.org.

Mothers in Prison, Children in Crisis Rally

Nationally, the number of women in jail and prison has increased from 10,000 in 1980 to 161,200 in 2001 (U.S. Department of Justice: Bureau of Justice Statistics). In Iowa, the number of women in the prison system has increased from 134 female inmates in 1988 to 624 female inmates as of February, 2002. The women inmate population is projected to increase from 641 on June 30, 2001 to about 970 inmates by mid-year 2011, or by about 51% over the 10-year period.

Mothers in Prison, Children in Crisis is a national event that seeks to draw public attention to community alternatives to imprisonment for non-violent crimes, and to focus on the impact on children whose mothers are in prison. Mandatory minimum sentencing laws are a great problem in the quest for alternatives.

Nationally, seventy-five percent of women in prison are mothers. Two-thirds of these women have children under the age of 18. (U.S. Department of Justice: Bureau of Justice Statistics) Seventy-two percent of women prisoners with children under 18 lived with those children before entering prison (Child Welfare League of America). Many of the children are put into foster care, which further taxes our resources as nationally, foster care for a prisoner's child costs an average of \$20,000 per year, adding to the cost of incarcerating their caregivers.

Each year during Mother's Day weekend, Mothers in Prison, Children in Crisis rallies across the country advocate for sentencing alternatives. In Des Moines, a rally will be held at 12 noon, May 10, on the west steps of the State Capitol. It is free and open to the public. Bring your own chair. Friends of Iowa Women Prisoners and other state and local organizations, including the Iowa Commission on the Status of Women, cosponsor the event.

Invisible Again - continued from page 1

men, and teen parents were able to access vocational programs. The 1998 law eliminated these important features.

In 2002 Congress is scheduled to reauthorize the Perkins law, as well as the 1996 welfare reform law. *Invisible Again* casts severe doubt on the ability of the current Perkins law to provide the support educational programs need to help female students gain the skills required to avoid a life of poverty. *Invisible Again* recommends steps that students, educators, advocates and policymakers can take to ensure that women and girls continue to have an opportunity to prepare for the workforce and economic independence.

The National Coalition of Women and Girls in Education (NCWGE) is a national, nonprofit organization comprising approximately 50 organizations dedicated to improving educational opportunities for women and girls. NCGWE is currently chaired by the National Women's Law Center, a non-profit organization that has been working since 1972 to advance and protect women's legal rights at work, in school, and in virtually every aspect of their lives.

Invisible Again was coordinated by NCGWE's Vocational Education and Training Task Force, which is chaired by Women Work! The National Network for Women's Employment. Women Work! is a national, nonprofit organization that advocates for the economic security of women and families through policies, programs and partnerships. In addition to individuals throughout the country, Network members include more than 1,000 education, training and employment programs. Since 1978 Women Work! Network programs have helped more than 10 million women in transition gain the skills needed to compete in the workforce and become self-sufficient.

For more information or a copy of *Invisible Again*, please contact Women Work! at (202) 467-6346. Copies of the publication can also be obtained from the NCWGE and Women Work! websites at <www.ncwge.org> and <www.womenwork.org>.

Prescription Drug Help

As Iowans age, they face lower income and increased need for medication. Reducing the drug cost for Iowans is an important step in maintaining and improving our overall health. By reducing the overall costs of prescription medications, Iowans may find it easier to take the recommended dosages prescribed by health care providers.

For those Iowans who are Medicare-eligible, a new program, Iowa Priority Prescription Savings Program has been implemented.

Iowa Priority, run by the nonprofit Iowa Prescription Drug Corporation, was initiated by Senator Tom Harkin and Governor Tom Vilsack and was funded by a start-up grant secured by Senator Harkin.

The annual membership fee is \$20. Members are able to receive discounted prices on prescriptions. For more information or to enroll, contact Iowa Priority at 866/282-5817 or <www.iowapriority.org>.

The Advocacy Network for Aging Iowans (ANAI) suggests that Iowans contact drug manufacturers directly to receive discounts.

Pfizer	800/646-4455
Parker-Davis	908/725-1247
Aricept	800/226-2072
GlaxoSmithKline	888/672-6436

Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield members can save if regularly taken medicines are ordered through AdvanceRX. For more information, contact Wellmark at 800/526-8995.

The Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America has a "Directory of Prescription Drug Patient Assistance Program" that lists the companies that have an assistance program and rules for the program. For more information on this resource, point your browser to <www.phrma.org/searchcures/dpdpap/>.

Talk to your health care provider if you are unable to pay for prescriptions. There are ways to obtain reduced-costs drugs.

Vote - continued from page 1

and 15 running for other electoral positions (one female) while eight Senators will retire (three female) and six will run for other offices (two female). Candidates who filed by the March 15th deadline for listing in the primary elections include:

Primary Race June 4, 2002

	Male Dem.	Female Dem.	Male Rep.	Female Rep.
Iowa Senate	29	4	25	11
Iowa House	62	31	98	21
80 th General Assembly	91	35	123	32

During the next few months, you may find yourself talking to one candidate or another. The ICSW recognizes that a candidate who is female is not always the best choice in an election when she is not supportive of women's issues. Consider any of these topics as just the beginning of many issues for discussion with candidates - male or female - to find out who you really want to vote into an office.

Topics to discuss with federal candidates:

- ✓ Fair Pay Act and Paycheck Fairness Act (women make 73 cents for every \$1 by men).
- ✓ Partial wage compensation for taking 12 weeks of parental leave for birth or adoption of a child.

Topics to discuss with state candidates:

- ✓ Pay equity for employees in private industry, livable wages and affordable benefits.
- ✓ Parity for mental health and substance abuse cases on insurance coverage.
- ✓ State funding for the emergency assistance (in the winter of 2001, elderly Iowa women were choosing between buying their medicine or paying their heat bill).
- ✓ State funding for adolescent pregnancy prevention (10.6 percent of the total live births in 1999 were to teenage mothers age 19 or younger).
- ✓ State funding for legal services (70 percent of those served are women; 650-700 were turned down every month in 2002).
- ✓ State funding for education and training for women throughout Iowa's correctional system.

Topics to discuss with local candidates:

- ✓ Local support for the nearest domestic violence shelter or sexual assault center (6,432 domestic abuse cases and 2,057 sexual assaults were reported in Iowa in 1999).
- ✓ Gender balance on city or county committees, boards, or commissions.

Educational Grants to Low-Income Women Available

Friends of ICSW will be accepting applications until July 1, 2002 for assistance grants to low-income women to improve job skills, update professional licensing, enroll in English as a second language class, or attend occupational seminars leading to increased employment opportunities.

Other educational programs that improve employment opportunities will also be considered. Tuition, fees, books, and supplies for post-secondary education are not a priority for awards. Preference will be made for training for occupations with higher paying wages.

The Endowment Fund's grants are intended to be used to fund a portion of an educational program with the balance being paid by the applicant or another source.

A total of \$1200 in grants will be awarded on August 24. Applicants must demonstrate financial need and that other funding sources are not available to them or are insufficient to meet a critical educational need.

A simple application form is available from the ICSW, Lucas State Office Building, Des Moines IA 50319; phone 515/281-4461 or 1/800-558-4427, or visit the web site at <www.state.ia.us/dhr/sw>.

Whispers & Screams Conference

The 6th annual *Whispers & Screams* conference will be held May 16-17, 2002 at The Hotel at Gateway Center in Ames, Iowa. Dr. Terry Tafoya is the Executive Director of Tamanawit, Unlimited, an international, multicultural consulting company. He is a national consultant for the U.S. Center for Substance Abuse Prevention Project and will be the opening keynote speaker at the conference from 9:15-10:45 a.m. on Thursday, May 16. Tafoya will explore how communities reach out to girls in the prevention of underage drinking, chemical dependency, sexual abuse and juvenile crime.

Senators Johnie Hammond and Maggie Tinsman will make opening remarks on Friday. They will address Iowa's legislative policy and the history of their commitment to girls. The Senators will also speak about who mentored them as adolescents and as grown women.

Whispers & Screams will continue to offer attendees basic and advanced workshops on gender-specific program planning, background on female adolescent development and experiences, and specific tools for working with girls involved with or at risk for involvement with the juvenile justice system.

For a conference registration brochure or more information on *Whispers & Screams*, contact Sue Ryan-Anderson at the Iowa Commission on the Status of Women, 515/281-6915, 800/558-4427 or sue.ryan-anderson@dhr.state.ia.us. Conference registration brochures are also available on the ICSW website at <www.state.ia.us/dhr/sw/girls>.

Women in Public Policy

2001 marked the emergence of a new organization: Iowa Women in Public Policy (WIPP), a bipartisan effort formed to bring women into the political arena and to the public policy table.

Staging its inaugural event last May, WIPP brought women and their supporters together in a charity event to benefit the fight against breast cancer. Since then the organization has focused its efforts on raising awareness among Iowans of the needs and opportunities for women in public office; inviting women to become involved; and helping women who want to run gain the skills and support they need to be successful.

The results are beginning to show. While 42 women filed to run for the state legislature in the last campaign cycle, this year 69 women filed for state office and two are running for Congress. That is over a 60% increase! According to WIPP "this is cause to celebrate but not to rest! Iowans need to find and support female candidates they think would do a good job." To this end an upcoming event provides an opportunity to meet and learn more about these women running and other women active in public policy.

On Monday, May 13 the Second Annual Women in Public Policy Open will once again unite women and friends in a day of fun and camaraderie. This year's event will benefit the Children's Miracle Network in helping Iowa children battle serious diseases and injuries and Iowa's Women in Public Policy in its efforts to inform, encourage and support women's involvement in political office and the public policy arena.

Thanks to the generous support of The Des Moines Register, this year's event will feature a keynote address by Lieutenant General Claudia Kennedy (ret.), the United States Army's highest-ranking woman in history and author of *Generally Speaking*.

The Honorary Planning Committee consists of Lt. Governor Sally Pederson, Senate President Mary Kramer, House Minority Whip Geri Huser, House Majority Whip Libby Jacobs, and The Des Moines Register Publisher and President Mary Stier. The day's events include a light buffet lunch at 11 a.m., tee-off at 12 noon, reception at 5:00 p.m. with dinner with keynote presentation at 6:00 p.m. The cost for golf, the reception and dinner is \$150; the cost for the reception and dinner only is \$50.

If you would like to attend the event – for the entire day, or for the reception and dinner – please contact Leann Brunnette at 515/440-2623. WIPP urges Iowans to come together with and support Iowa's women who are making a difference in our state's public leadership!

Latino Heritage Festival

The Latino Heritage Festival, originally planned for September 15, 2001 in Des Moines, is now scheduled for May 25 and will be held on the bridges of downtown Des Moines. The event was postponed due to the September 11 tragedy.

The festival, expected to attract thousands of visitors, is meant to highlight the contribution of Latino and other minority cultures to Iowa, and help make new Iowans feel welcome. It will feature games, food, sports demonstrations, exhibits, music, and dance -- all with a Latin flavor. Activities for children and adults will be included. This event is the first-of-its-kind in Iowa.

In addition to the main events on May 25, a student day -- a fun-filled event designed to make students aware of the Latino contributions to Iowa -- will be held on May 24 at the State Historical Building in Des Moines.

For more information, contact JoAnn Mackey, festival chairperson at 515/242-6534 or joann.mackey@dhr.state.ia.us.

Calendar

April

27 Through Women's Eyes. 7:30 p.m. First Presbyterian Church, Davenport. \$10. Hersong: The Quad-Cities Women's Chorus, 866/746-4482.

29-30 The Care Cruise: Iowa CareGivers Association Annual Conference. University Park Holiday Inn, West Des Moines. Fee varies. 515/241-8697, iowacga@aol.com, or <www.iowacaregivers.org>.

May

Older Americans Month

- 1 Anxiety Disorder Screen Day.** 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. at designated area Des Moines HyVee stores. Call 515/254-0417 for locations.
- 2 Emerging Issues in Human Rights After September 11, 2002: Des Moines Human Rights Symposium.** 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Holiday Inn Airport, Des Moines. \$25. Des Moines Human Rights Commission, 515/283-4284.
- 3 Iowa Gender-Specific Services Task Force.** 10 a.m.-12 noon, Urbandale Public Library, Urbandale. Sue Ryan-Anderson, ICSW, 515/281-6915, 800/558-4427, or sue.ryan-anderson@dhr.state.ia.us.
- 4 Community Dialogue Training.** 12 noon-5 p.m. Columbus Elementary School, Columbus Junction. To register call Stephanie Coble at 319/728-2231 x.263.
- 4 NOW Regional Conference.** 11 a.m., Prairie Meadows Racetrack and Casino, Altoona. For more information, contact Jean Classon, 515/265-3193 or classonj@peoplepc.com.

--calendar continued on the next page

- 5-7 12th Annual American Indian Conference on Substance Abuse.** Pilgrim Heights Camp, Tama County. Fee varies. For information, contact G. Greiner, 515/232-7080 or gdgreiner@mcleodusa.net.
- 9 Education on AIDS/HIV.** 2-3 p.m. Des Moines University, Des Moines. \$10. Iowa CareGivers Association, 515/241-8697 or iowacga@aol.com.
- 10 Coffee with Chrysalis - Women in Agriculture: Healthy Food on the Table.** 7:30-8:30 a.m., Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, Des Moines. Free. RSVP by May 7 to Chrysalis Foundation, 515/255-1853 or chrysalisfdn@yahoo.com.
- 10 Mothers in Prison, Children in Crisis Mother's Day Rally.** 12 noon. West steps of State Capitol, Des Moines. Free and open to the public. Friends of Iowa Women Prisoners, 515/283-1911.
- 10 Spring Benefit.** 6-8 p.m. Iowa City. Emma Goldman Clinic, Karen Kubby, 319/337-2112.
- 11 Planned Parenthood of Greater Iowa's Annual Dinner.** Des Moines Marriott, Des Moines. For more information, call 515/280-7004, x.126.
- 11 Uncolor Performance.** 7 p.m. Martha Ellen Tye Playhouse, Marshalltown. Free and open to the public. Graffiti Theatre, 319-621-3234 or www.graffiti-theatre.com.
- 12-18 National Women's Health Week.**
- 13 Iowa Commission on the Status of Women Meeting.** 10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Site to be announced. Free and open to the public. Call or write for special accommodations, 800/558-4427, 515/281-4461 or [dhr.icsw@dhr.state.ia.us](mailto:dh.icsw@dhr.state.ia.us).
- 13 Iowa's Women in Public Policy Open.** Hyperion Field Club, Johnston. For more information, see page 6.
- 15 Turn Beauty Inside Out Action Day.** www.newmoon.org/TBIOD/index.html.
- 16 Women and Money: Kids and Money.** 6:30-8:30 p.m. Meeting Room A, Iowa City Public Library. Free. Iowa Women's Foundation, 319/337-4222, lisa@iawf.org.
- 17 Courageous Advocacy Awards Luncheon.** The Hotel at Gateway Center, Ames. \$20 before May 6, \$30 after. Iowa Gender-Specific Services Task Force. Sue Ryan-Anderson, 515/281-6915, 800/558-4427, or sue.ryan-anderson@dhr.state.ia.us.
- 20 First Lady Tea.** 11 a.m. or 3 p.m., Terrace Hill, Des Moines. \$25. Terrace Hill Foundation. For more information or reservations, contact Beth at 515/281-7205.
- 21 Friends of Iowa Women Prisoners.** 12 noon. Wesley United Methodist Church, 800 East 12

Street, Des Moines. Bring a brown bag lunch and your concerns about women in the Iowa correctional system. Anyone interested is welcome. 515/283-1911.

- 25 Latino Heritage Festival.** See page 6 for more information.
- 25 Girls' Computer Workshop.** 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Neveln Community Center, Ankeny. Free. For more information, contact Helen Struve at 515/292-4023 or hstruve@pobox.com.

June

Iowa Caregivers Month

- 5 Women of Achievement Awards Luncheon.** 11:45 a.m.-1:15 p.m. Polk County Convention Complex, Des Moines. YWCA. Kristy Sellers, 515/244-8961 x.410 or www.ywcadsm.org.
- 6 Maintaining Professional Boundaries by Practicing Good Self Care.** 8:30-4:30. Holiday Inn Airport, Des Moines. \$45. Iowa Department of Public Health, 515/281-5787.
- 7 Coffee with Chrysalis - Raising Girls.** 7:30-8:30 a.m., Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, Des Moines. Free. RSVP by May 4 to Chrysalis Foundation, 515/255-1853 or chrysalisfdn@yahoo.com.
- 7 Iowa Gender-Specific Services Task Force.** 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Urbandale Public Library, Urbandale. Sue Ryan-Anderson, ICSW, 515/281-6915, 800/558-4427, or sue.ryan-anderson@dhr.state.ia.us.
- 17 First Lady Tea.** 11 a.m. or 3 p.m., Terrace Hill, Des Moines. \$25. Terrace Hill Foundation. For more information or reservations, contact Beth at 515/281-7205.
- 19 Voices of Mid-life & Older Women Meeting.** 6 p.m. Mama Lacona's, Urbandale. Althea Rausch, 515/222-1114.
- 20 Women and Money: Domestic Partnerships.** 6:30-8:30 p.m. Meeting Room A, Iowa City Public Library. Free. Iowa Women's Foundation, 319/337-4222, lisa.iawf.org.
- 29 Girls' Computer Workshop.** 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Neveln Community Center, Ankeny. Free. For more information, contact Helen Struve at 515/292-4023 or hstruve@pobox.com.

Upcoming

- July 18 Insights from the Women of Des Moines Luncheon.** 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Hoyt Sherman Place, Des Moines. \$20. Speaker: Connie Wimer. Chrysalis Foundation, 515/255-1853.

Bits and Pieces

The ICSW extends a thank you to intern **Robyn Nitchals**. Nitchals, a junior political science major from Iowa State University, worked with the ICSW during the spring semester on several projects including legislation tracking and updating statistics about Iowa women.



Iowa Women and the Law 2002 revised edition in English is now available. Information on housing, credit, employment, domestic violence, and more is included in the booklet. For a free copy, go to the publication page on the ICSW website, <www.state.ia.us/dhr/sw>, or contact the ICSW at 515/281-4461, 800/558-4427, or dhr.icsw@dhr.state.ia.us. Funding for this project was generously given by the Iowa State Bar Association Foundation.



On February 14, 2002, **Teresa C. Chambers** became the 14th Chief of the

U.S. Park Police and the first female to ever serve in that position. The stage for the swearing-in ceremony was shared with two other women who are first in their respective positions: United States Secretary of the Interior Gale Norton is the first female to head the 152-year-old Interior Department and Fran Mainella is the first female director of the 86-year-old National Park Service. The U.S. Park Police is 210 years old.



Save the date! The **Iowa Women's Hall of Fame Ceremony** will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, August 24 at the State Historical Building in Des Moines. The Friends of the Iowa Commission on the Status of Women Luncheon will be held following the ceremony at Younker's Tea Room. Paulette Wiley and Mary Ann Spicer of Sisters on Target will be the featured presenters.



First Chance, an online network of rural women in the United States and Canada, is a new project that will distribute news and information for rural women by rural women. The project was developed by The Rural Womyn Zone to provide information, outreach, support, and a networking base for rural women and grassroots activities. Point your browser to <www.ruralwomyn.net/firstchance.html> for more information.



The **ASK Family Resource Center** is now open. This one-stop-shop for children and adults with disabilities and their families has information on educational rights, emotional conflicts, respite care resources, health care resources, information on children's mental health issues, legal consultation and more! The Resource Center is at 317 East 6th Street, Des Moines and can be reached at 515/243-1713 or 800/450-8667.

Help save printing/postage costs!
If you no longer wish to receive
this newsletter, please write or
call the ICSW office. You may also
send your e-mail address. Thank you!

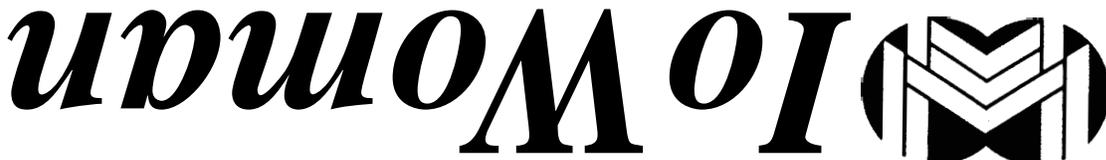
**Friends of the Iowa Commission
on the Status of Women**
Lucas State Office Building
Des Moines, IA 50319
Telephone: 515/281-4461 or 800/558-4427
Fax: 515/242-6119
E-mail address: dhr.icsw@dhr.state.ia.us
Website: <http://www.state.ia.us/dhr/sw>

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Enclosure of items in the newsletter does not necessarily connote endorsement by the Friends of the ICSW. All information must be mailed or faxed to the ICSW no later than the 15th day of all even numbered months. The use of any submitted material is at the discretion of the editor. The *Iowa Woman* is mailed six times per year to 8,600 persons or organizations.

Suzanne O'Dea Schenken, President • Charlotte Nelson, ICSW Executive Director • Lori M. SchraderBachar, Editor

Vol. XXXII, No. 3 May/June 2002

**Iowa Woman**