



# Iowa Woman

A Publication of the Friends of the Iowa Commission on the Status of Women • Vol. XXXV, No. 5, September/October 2005

## **Iowa Women Receive High Honor** *Four Inducted into Iowa Women's Hall of Fame*

Four remarkable women were recognized for their significant contributions by being inducted into the Iowa Women's Hall of Fame on Saturday, August 27 at the State Historical Building in Des Moines. The event was held in conjunction with Women's Equality Day, August 26, which commemorates the day in 1920 when American women won the right to vote.

The Iowa Women's Hall of Fame is sponsored by the Iowa Commission on the Status of Women (ICSW). Lieutenant Governor Sally J. Pederson and ICSW Chair Kimberly Painter presented awards to Johnie Hammond, Brenda LaBlanc, and Jo Ann McIntosh Zimmerman. A posthumous award acknowledged Susan Schechter.

Also at the ceremony, the ICSW presented Susan C. Buckley with the Cristine Wilson Medal for Equality and Justice. This medal is awarded periodically to an Iowan whose life exemplifies the work of Cristine Wilson, who was the first chair of the ICSW and who spent her life working toward equality and justice.

This year marked the 31st Iowa Women's Hall of Fame induction ceremony. For a book containing the pictures and biographies of these women, send \$5, which includes shipping and handling, to the ICSW, Lucas State Office Building, Des Moines, IA 50319. Biographies of all 124 inductees can be read on-line on the Iowa Women's Hall of Fame page of [www.state.ia.us/dhr/sw](http://www.state.ia.us/dhr/sw). A publication listing biographies of the Cristine Wilson Medal recipients is also available on-line.

### **Johnie Wright Hammond**

Guided by an unshakeable belief in justice and dignity for all, in the power of public education, and the democratic process to effect change, Johnie Wright Hammond has been an Iowa leader in ways that are far reaching and enduring. She has been a tireless advocate for those sometimes forgotten: children, the elderly, persons with disabilities, women, and low income families and individuals. She was the first woman elected to the Story County Board of Supervisors, and the first woman elected to represent Ames in the House of Representatives (12 years) and the Senate (8 years). While in the Iowa General Assembly, she played a key role in the women's caucus and helped enact landmark legislation that has improved women's lives: comparable worth, inheritance laws, minimum wage, health care for children, and the criminalization of marital rape. She authored legislation for gender balance on state boards and the Equal Rights Amendment to the Iowa Constitution. As a staunch defender of civil rights and an innovator for reform of the



justice system in Iowa, she served on boards of directors for the League of Women Voters, Iowa Civil Liberties Union, Legal Services of Story County, Center for Creative Justice, and the Iowa Board of Corrections. She has a reputation for remarkable wit and humor even when addressing serious issues. Hammond was born August 22, 1932 in Eupora, Mississippi. She is an active American Baptist, and is deeply committed to her family including her husband Earl, their four children and eleven grandchildren.

### **Brenda LaBlanc**

Brenda LaBlanc, born in Watford, England on April 15, 1928, moved to the east side of Des Moines in 1946 as a war bride. She began her advocacy when she was nearly 40 years old, contesting the City of Des Moines proposal to inspect every home and require repairs. That experience was a defining moment in her life as, with her neighbors, she took steps to address the issues. Later, she and her husband were denied



a home mortgage by five banks because their home was located in a low-income neighborhood. As a result LaBlanc began her 30 year mission to ensure that other qualified borrowers were not denied the credit they deserved. She joined Des Moines Citizens for Community Improvement and began using the Community Reinvestment Act to ensure banks met the credit needs of everyone, including those who lived in low-income neighborhoods. She has also advocated on other issues that impact people of modest means such as affordable utility rates and neighborhood drug activity. Because of her leadership skills, LaBlanc was recruited to be co-chair of National Peoples' Action in 2001, where she helps coordinate a coalition of hundreds of community organizations across the United States. LaBlanc connects people across racial, economic, ethnic, and geographical boundaries and values working together with others to improve the community for all.

### Susan Schechter

Susan Schechter, visionary national leader in shaping society's response to domestic violence and key figure in the American feminist movement of the late twentieth century, was a Clinical Professor of Social Work at the University of Iowa from 1993 until her untimely death in February 2004. Among her major accomplishments are *Women and Male Violence*, a pathbreaking book that framed the issues surrounding violence against women in the home and has profoundly influenced subsequent efforts to confront the issue; *When Love Goes Wrong* (with Ann Jones), a self-help book for women in abusive relationships; *Effective Intervention in Domestic Violence and Child Maltreatment* (known as the "Greenbook"), a guide to program development for professionals in child abuse and domestic violence; and AWAKE, the first program in the country to address child abuse in families afflicted by domestic violence, which she founded (with Lisa Tieszen) at Children's Hospital in Boston. As a result of her work, courts, public child welfare systems and community organizations alike have fundamentally changed their practice in dealing with women and children exposed to violence in the home. Susan Schechter was born in St. Louis on May 1, 1946.



### Jo Ann McIntosh Zimmerman

Jo Ann McIntosh Zimmerman, of West Des Moines, is a catalyst for change. As a registered nurse, she worked to professionalize the image of nurses through the Iowa Nurses Association. Zimmerman served on the Waukee School Board and in the House of Representatives, where she was the first nurse, from 1982 to 1986; and was the first woman elected Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate in 1987. A Democrat, she was elected by popular vote to serve alongside a Republican Governor. Zimmerman has worked consistently to encourage women to run for public office and helped to elect women through DAWN (Democratic Activist Women's Network), of which she is a co-founder. She has also been a mentor for young girls in the Girl Scouts, brought the Mother of Twins Organization to Central Iowa, founded the Iowa Talented and Gifted: parents support group, developed human sexuality programs for teens and parents in her church, and many other projects to better the lives of Iowa families. Zimmerman continues to be an advocate for health care policy. She initiated the Health Ministry of the First Christian Church in Des Moines, where a weekly health tent at the Drake Neighborhood Farmer's Market offers free screenings and children's physicals. She has served numerous organizations, including the Iowa PTA Board, the Iowa League of Nursing Board, and Iowa Women's Political Caucus. She and her husband are parents of five children and two foster daughters, to whom they taught self reliance, public responsibility and good citizenship. Zimmerman was born on December 24, 1936 in Van Buren County, Iowa.



### Cristine Wilson Medal Recipient

#### Susan C. Buckley

For over three decades, Susan C. Buckley has been an advocate for equality and justice in the State of Iowa across race, gender, and sexual orientation. Buckley created and directed the Pre-Vocational Training Program for Women with support from the Women's Educational Equity Act and Iowa Sex Equity Funds. For ten years, this highly innovative program encouraged and prepared low-income Iowa women for careers in the skilled trades and technical occupations to ensure economic self-



**Save the Date!**  
**The 2006 Iowa Women's Hall of Fame**  
**Ceremony is August 26.**

sufficiency. It served as a national model and a springboard for assistance to Iowa community colleges regarding nontraditional occupation opportunities for women. Buckley also served as the director of the Women's Resource and Action Center during the 1980s. She successfully led efforts to expand the University's Human Rights statement to include protection for gays, lesbians, and bisexuals, and, earlier, efforts to expand the Iowa City Human Rights Ordinance to include sexual orientation. Within the University, Buckley advocated successfully for comparable worth to be the basis of compensation; for appropriate sexual harassment policy, procedures, and training; and for the University to offer domestic partner insurance to employees (the first university or public college in the United States to offer such a benefit). As a core member of Women Against Racism, Buckley led anti-racism workshops and coordinated statewide and national conferences on racism, and its connection to other forms of oppression. Buckley is a co-founder of the Iowa Women's Foundation, which supports empowerment of women and girls.

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## Do you know a remarkable woman?

Do you know someone who should be in the Iowa Women's Hall of Fame? Is the community and/or state better for her contributions? Are people in general better because of her accomplishments? Are women in Iowa, the region, and/or United States better, has their status improved, or have opportunities increased for women because of her life and contributions, and/or is the nation, world, or a particular discipline, profession, or field better because of her contributions?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, go to <[www.state.ia.us/government/dhr/sw/hall\\_fame/index.html](http://www.state.ia.us/government/dhr/sw/hall_fame/index.html)> or call the ICSW office at 515/281-4461 for a nomination form. Nominations for the 2006 Iowa Women's Hall of Fame are due by May 1, 2006.

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## Public Hearing Set

Do you have a vested interest in the improved status of girls and/or women in Iowa? And, would you like the opportunity to influence the Iowa Commission on the Status of Women's 2006 Legislative Proposals?

If so, consider testifying at the Commission's annual Public Hearing beginning at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, October 26 at the Urbandale Public Library, 3520 - 86th Street, Urbandale.

Persons or groups who have an interest in issues affecting Iowa women/girls are invited to participate. Contact the ICSW to receive a participants' form to complete, or download one from <[www.state.ia.us/government/dhr/sw/legislation/index.html](http://www.state.ia.us/government/dhr/sw/legislation/index.html)>.

Those who wish to present **written information** for consideration at the public hearing must have 15 copies of the material, including the participant form, **in the office by 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, October 12:** Iowa Commission on the Status of Women, Lucas State Office Building, Des Moines, IA 50319.

Persons or groups wishing to participate in the **oral discussion** of one or more hearing topics (for no longer than 5 minutes) should call or write for scheduling on the agenda. Deadline for scheduling oral discussion is **12 noon, Monday, October 10:** Lori SchraderBachar at 515/281-4470, 800/558-4427, or <[lori.schraderbachar@iowa.gov](mailto:lori.schraderbachar@iowa.gov)>. Persons/groups may also submit written material by the above-mentioned date to complement their oral presentation.

Topics may include but are **not limited** to family, child care, health, insurance, corrections, pay equity, violence, sports, education, caregiving, displaced homemakers, sexual harassment, employment issues, health care reform, business/economic issues, divorce, housing, and welfare reform.

## Catt's House Open

The historic 1866 girlhood home of Carrie Chapman Catt, woman suffrage leader and founder of the League of Women Voters, was dedicated on Saturday, August 27.

The home, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, was purchased in 1991 by the National 19th Amendment Society, a Charles City-based private, non-profit organization. (The 19th Amendment, ratified 85 years ago on August 26, extended to women in the United States the right to vote.) The home, where Catt lived from age seven to early adulthood, has been fully restored. It is located about three miles southeast of Charles City.

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## Findley to Testify at White House

Ten delegates will represent the state of Iowa at the White House Conference on Aging (WHCoA) to be held in Washington, D.C. from December 11 to 14, 2005. The delegation consists of three delegates named by Governor Thomas J. Vilsack and seven named by members of Iowa's Congressional delegation. Di Findley, executive director of the Iowa CareGivers Association, was selected by Governor Vilsack.

Twelve hundred delegates from throughout the country will participate in the 2005 WHCoA, the fifth such conference in our nation's history. Delegates will vote on resolutions and develop implementation strategies that will help the President and Congress shape aging policies for the next ten years and beyond. The theme for the 2005 WHCoA is "The Booming Dynamics of Aging: From Awareness to Action." The theme reflects the changing face of aging in America. The 2005 WHCoA is mandated by the Older Americans Act to focus on the interests and needs of current seniors as well as the 78 million baby boomers who will begin to turn 60 in 2006.

## Iowans in Transition Grants Awarded

### Fiscal Year 2005

The Iowa Commission on the Status of Women (ICSW) annually awards competitive grants to programs that serve Iowans in Transition; i.e., displaced homemakers, single parents, and female offenders, who are unemployed or under-employed. The program funding is to be used with an emphasis on helping participants achieve economic self-sufficiency through education, training, and job placement in conjunction with other agencies. After a personal assessment, the programs provide pre-employment services such as support services (child care or transportation), remedial education, academic upgrading, or specific job training.

During fiscal year 2005, 1,431 Iowans in Transition were served statewide by programs including the Des Moines Area Community College on the Boone, Carroll and Des Moines urban campuses, Northeast Iowa Community College on the Calmar and Dubuque campuses, Iowa Lakes Community College in Estherville, and Women Aware, Inc. in Sioux City.

Ninety-three percent of the 1,431 individuals receiving pre-employment services were female. At intake, 94 percent were between the ages of 20 and 54, and 53 percent were receiving some type of welfare assistance. Reports showed 77 percent of the population was white with 13 percent African-American, 5 percent Latina, 3 percent American Indian, and 0.7 percent Asian-Pacific Islander. While about 30 percent attended some type of formal workshop, 79 percent received pre-employment assessment leading up to 10 percent getting an ABE, GED or ESL, 20 percent receiving academic upgrading, and 58 percent enrolling for some type of training toward a degree for a career. About 39 percent of the 1,431 received some type of support service (childcare, transportation, etc.).

### Fiscal Year 2006

ICSW has awarded five grants totaling \$92,000 to programs that serve Iowans in Transition for fiscal year 2005. Programs receiving funding include Des Moines Area Community College - \$13,000 for the Urban campus and \$22,000 for the Boone and Carroll campuses, \$13,000 to Northeast Iowa Community College for the Calmar and Dubuque campuses, \$19,000 to Iowa Lakes Community College in Estherville, and \$25,000 to Women Aware, Inc. in Sioux City. Eight proposals requesting \$161,983 were received. The grant review committee members included ICSW Treasurer Vicki Brown along with Tim Fitzpatrick, Lora Kelly-Benck, Kile Scharf and Kate Albrecht.



Join Iowans from around the state on Monday, October 17 when Friends of Iowa Civil Rights, Inc. presents Iowa's Mosaic Diversity Conference. The conference will be held at the Scheman Center on Iowa State University's campus in Ames. And for the first time, an intensive diversity institute will be

held on Tuesday, October 18.

The conference keynote speaker is Dr. Samuel Betonces. Michelle Soria is the capstone speaker. Gary R. Howard will keynote during the institute. Both days will be filled with exciting workshop presentations. Monday will also feature exhibits and the 10th Annual Friends of Iowa Civil Rights, Inc. awards luncheon.

For more information or to register for conference and/or institute, visit [www.iowadiversity.org/conference](http://www.iowadiversity.org/conference).

## Friends Grants Endowment Funds

Friends started an Endowment Fund to assist adult women pursuing more education in 1994. This year, two women received awards.

Marta Parrott of Afton is a single mother raising an 11 year old daughter. Joyce Schulte, director of the Student Support Services Program, recommended Marta for our award indicating that this non-traditional student has proven to herself and to others that she truly can succeed, and, in fact, has earned a 4.0 cumulative grade point average. Friends of ICSW is awarding \$445 to Marta for child care and transportation costs while attending her final year at Southwestern Community College. She will complete an Associate degree in accounting.

Mirzeta Softic of Des Moines was awarded Endowment Funds in 2000 for an English reading course and in 2002 for a nursing class at Des Moines Area Community College. We are awarding her with \$445 again in 2005 to take a much needed computer class for nursing, which will enhance her full-time employment at Brookdale Ramsey Village. The executive director at Brookdale, Karen Vroman, indicates that Mirzeta is an exemplary employee, who is dependable, kind and caring to the residents, and who acts as an interpreter for other staff from Bosnia with English as a second language.

Friends has now awarded a total of \$9,300 to 36 Iowa women. These awards would not be possible without generous donations received for the Endowment Fund.

If you would like to support the Endowment Fund, please make your check payable to the Friends of the ICSW and write Endowment Fund in the memo. Mail to Friends of ICSW, Lucas State Office Building, Des Moines, IA, 50319.

## Read A Banned Book

Since 1982, Banned Books Week - Celebrating the Freedom to Read is observed during the last week of September; in 2005 the dates are September 24 - October 1. The annual event reminds Americans not to take the first amendment freedom for granted. As Supreme Court Justice William J. Brennan, Jr., in *Texas v. Johnson*, said, "If there is a bedrock principle underlying the First Amendment, it is that the government may not prohibit the expression of an idea simply because society finds the idea itself offensive or disagreeable."

Banned Books Week celebrates the freedom to choose or the freedom to express one's opinion even if that opinion might be considered unorthodox or unpopular and stresses the importance of ensuring the availability of those unorthodox or unpopular viewpoints to all who wish to read them.

Many bookstores and libraries across the nation join in the celebration with displays and readings of books that have been banned or threatened throughout history. These include works ranging from the *Bible* to John Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men* to the popular *Harry Potter* series for children.

Each year, the American Library Association's (ALA) Office for Intellectual Freedom receives hundreds of reports on books and other materials that were "challenged" (their removal from school or library shelves was requested). The ALA estimates the number represents only about a quarter of the actual challenges.

Most challenged titles include the *Harry Potter* series by J.K. Rowling, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain, *It's Perfectly Normal* by Robie Harris, and *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* by Maya Angelou. In 2004 the most challenged books were *The Chocolate War* by Robert Cormier, *Fallen Angels* by Walter Dean Myers, *Arming America: The Origins of a National Gun Culture* by Michael A. Bellesiles, the *Captain Underpants* series by Dave Pilkey, *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* by Stephen Chbosky, *What My Mother Doesn't Know* by Sonya Sones, *In the Night Kitchen* by Maurice Sendak, and *King & King* by Linda de Haan and Stern Nijland.

For more information on Banned Books Week, including a complete list of books and authors banned from 1990, visit <[bbw@ala.org](mailto:bbw@ala.org)>. Also listed is an action guide and activities to commemorate Banned Book Week.

Banned Books Week is sponsored by the American Booksellers Association, the American Booksellers Foundation for Free Expression, the American Library Association (ALA), the Association of American Publishers, the American Society of Journalists and Authors and the National Association of College Stores with the Library of Congress Center for the Book endorsing it.

## Care for Yourself

Iowa Department of Public Health's Care for Yourself, the Iowa Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program, is part of a national program to help reduce the number of deaths from breast and cervical cancer. It exists to increase the number of women age 50-64 who are screened for breast and cervical cancer.

According to the Iowa Department of Public Health, breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in women in Iowa. Breast cancer can occur at any age, but it becomes more common as a woman gets older. Most women diagnosed with breast cancer have no family history of the disease; the biggest risk factor for breast cancer is being a woman.

Unlike breast cancer, cervical cancer is preventable. Each year in Iowa approximately 45 women die needlessly from cervical cancer. These deaths can be prevented. A simple Pap test can detect changes in the cells early when treatment is most successful.

Local Care for Yourself Programs help eligible women to receive: clinical breast exams, mammograms, pelvic exams, and Pap tests. Women who are diagnosed with breast or cervical cancer through the Care for Yourself Program receive help in finding treatment. Services are directed especially to women between the ages of 40-64, women age 40 or below with breast symptoms; minorities, including rural; or those rarely, never screened

To learn more about Care For Yourself, call 800/369-2229 or visit <<http://www.idph.state.ia.us/careforyourself/default.asp>>.

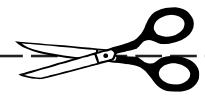
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## Internet Safety

If you are in an unsafe environment, the Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence urges you to be careful where you go on the internet. There are hundreds of ways that computers record everything you do on the computer or internet.

If you are in danger, please try to use a safer computer that someone abusive does not have direct access to, or even remote (hacking) access. It is not possible to delete or clear all computer "footprints." It might be safer to use a computer in a public library, at a community technology center, at a trusted friend's house or an Internet Cafe.

If you think your activities are being monitored, they probably are. Abusive people are often controlling and want to know your every move. If you think you may be monitored on your home computer, you might consider no home Internet use or Internet surfing. Example: If you are planning to flee to California, don't look at classified ads for jobs and apartments, bus tickets, etc. for California on a home computer or any computer an abuser has physical or remote access to. Use a safer computer to research an escape plan.



## Domestic Violence Crisis Centers

If you or someone you know is a victim of domestic violence, consider calling the domestic violence project nearest you. Also, note that many of the domestic violence projects also serve as sexual assault projects. This list was provided by the Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence, 515/244-8028.

<b>Adel</b>	<b>Decorah</b>	<b>Oskaloosa</b>
Crisis Line ..... 800/400-4884	Crisis Line ..... 800/383-2988	Crisis Line ..... 800/270-1620
Office ..... 515/993-4095	Office ..... 563/382-1260	Office ..... 641/673-0336
<b>Ames</b>	<b>Des Moines</b>	<b>Ottumwa</b>
Crisis Line ..... 800/203-3488	Crisis Line ..... 515/243-6147	Crisis Line ..... 800/464-8340
Office ..... 515/292-0500	Office ..... 515/471-8699 x.14	Office ..... 641/683-1750
<b>Atlantic</b>	<b>Dubuque</b>	<b>Shenandoah</b>
Crisis Line ..... 800/696-5123	Crisis Line ..... 888/332-5899	Crisis Line ..... 800/696-5123
Office ..... 712/243-6615	Office ..... 563/588-0048	Office ..... 712/246-6187
<b>Burlington</b>	<b>Fort Dodge</b>	<b>Sioux Center</b>
Crisis Line ..... 800/693-1399	Crisis Line ..... 888/356-2006	Crisis Line ..... 800/382-5603
Office ..... 319/752-0606	Office ..... 515/955-2273	Office ..... 712/722-4404
<b>Carroll</b>	<b>Grundy Center</b>	<b>Sioux City</b>
Crisis Line ..... 800/383-9744	Crisis Line ..... 888/746-4673	Crisis Line ..... 800/982-7233
Office ..... 712/792-6722	Office ..... 319/824-5522	Office ..... 712/277-0131
<b>Cedar Rapids</b>	<b>Iowa City</b>	<b>Spencer</b>
Crisis Line ..... 319/363-2093	Crisis Line ..... 800/373-1043	Crisis Line ..... 877/362-4612
Office ..... 319/365-1458	Office ..... 319/351-1043	Office ..... 712/262-4612
<b>Cherokee</b>	<b>Keokuk</b>	<b>Waverly</b>
Crisis Line ..... 800/225-7233	Crisis Line ..... 800/498-5095	Crisis Line ..... 800/410-7233
Office ..... 712/225-5003	Office ..... 319/524-8520	Office ..... 319/352-1108
<b>Clinton</b>	<b>Marshalltown</b>	<b>Deaf Women of Iowa Against Abuse</b>
Crisis Line ..... 800/381-9319	Crisis Line ..... 800/779-3512	Office ..... 515/244-0875
Office ..... 563/242-2118	Office ..... 641/752-3245	TTY Crisis ..... 877/224-0875
<b>Council Bluffs</b>	<b>Mason City</b>	<b>Latinas Unidas por un Nuevo Amanecer (LUNA)</b>
Crisis Line ..... 888/612-0266	Crisis Line ..... 800/479-9071	Office ..... 515/271-5060
Office ..... 712/256-2059	Office ..... 641/424-9071	
<b>Creston</b>	Hampton ..... 641/456-5835	<b>State Hotline ..... 800/942-0333</b>
Crisis Line ..... 888/782-6632	Winnebago ..... 641/585-1050	
Office ..... 641/782-2706	Kossuth ..... 515/295-8646	
<b>Davenport (Rock Island)</b>	<b>Muscatine</b>	
Crisis Line ..... 563/326-9191	Crisis Line ..... 563/263-8080	
Office ..... 563/322-1200	Office ..... 563/263-0067	

## Helping Services Receives Grant

Helping Services for Northeast Iowa, Inc. and the Domestic and Sexual Abuse Resource Center will receive \$844,441 from the U.S. Department of Justice's Office on Violence Against Women to implement new projects for victims of domestic violence, such as to form domestic violence response teams, provide educational training and technical assistance to law enforcement officials and victims advocate staff, and coordinate emergency victim services. The project also hopes to raise awareness and broad-based community support for the Latino population and create models for faith-based services for victims of domestic violence and their children. Counties served will be Allamakee, Clayton, Fayette, Howard, and Winneshiek.

## VAWA Reauthorization

Congress is currently working on reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). The Senate is discussing adding funds to expand services from local programs to include assisting battered women find transitional housing, provide them with better health care services and help them keep their jobs by allowing employment leave for going to court or moving their belongings to a shelter. It would also allow programs to educate young people about family violence and engage men and boys in the campaign to end domestic and sexual violence. If approved, the bill would also provide funds for the first time to provide direct services to victims of sexual assault.

# Calendar of Events

## September

Latino Heritage Month (Sept. 15-Oct. 15) and Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month

- 2 Iowa Gender-Specific Services Task Force.** 10 a.m.-12 noon, Urbandale Public Library, Urbandale. Kathy Nesteby, ICSW, 515/281-6915, 800/558-4427, or <kathy.nesteby@iowa.gov>.
- 7 The Iowa Women's Business Exchange.** 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Polk County Convention Complex, Des Moines. Fee varies. June Owens, 515/288-4907 or <info@juneowensassociates.com>.
- 10 Aging With Attitude.** 9 a.m. - 12 noon, New Senior Citizens Center, Fort Dodge. Free and open to the public. Nancy Stanek, Women's Resource Center of North Central Iowa, 515/576-5226.
- 10 Twelfth Annual Iowa Women's Music Festival.** Iowa City. For more information, go to <www.prairievoices.net>.
- 12-13 ICA Rally: Checkpoints to Success.** Sheraton West Des Moines, West Des Moines. Fee varies. Iowa CareGivers Association, 515/241-8697 or <information@iowacaregivers.org>.
- 15 Women's Chamber Alliance Fifth Annual Forum: An Evening of Personal & Professional Development.** 5:30 - 9 a.m., Holiday Inn Downtown, Des Moines. \$60. Judy Smith, 515/299-2305 or <www.dsmwca.com>.
- 17 Crop for the Cure.** 9 a.m - 9 p.m., St. Francis Church, West Des Moines. \$35. For more information, go to <http://debbie.com/cropfortheure>.
- 17 Iowa's Latino Heritage Festival.** 10 a.m. - 11 p.m., Court and Walnut Avenue Bridges, Des Moines. Fee varies. <www.latinoheritagefestival.org>.
- 20 Women, Land and Legacy Discussions.** 1 - 3:30 p.m. at Pin Oak Marsh, Chariton or 6:30 - 9 p.m. at Ammett Nature Center in Indianola. To RSVP or for information, contact ISU Extension at 641/774-2016 or 515/961-6237.
- 22 Bridges Out of Poverty.** 8 a.m - 3:30 p.m., Adventureland Inn, Altoona. Fee varies. Central Place Family Resource Center, 515/967-7806.
- 22 Insights from the Women of Des Moines Luncheon.** 11:45 a.m.-1:15 p.m., Polk County Convention Center, Des Moines. Fee varies. Speaker: Anna Quindlen. Chrysalis Foundation, 515/255-1853, or <www.chrysalisfdn.org>.
- 23- October 2 Planned Parenthood of Greater Iowa's 45th Annual Book Sale.** Agricultural Building, State Fair Grounds, Des Moines. Admission is free except for opening night, which is \$5. <www.pppi.org>.

- 25 Business and Professional Women of Iowa Fall Board Meeting Keynote Speaker.** 9:30 a.m. - 12 noon, Four Points Sheraton, Des Moines. Fee varies. Speaker: Debra Salz presenting Wear A Teflon Coat Through Life. For more information contact Mary Groher at <marygroher@hotmail.com>.
- 29 Difficult Symptoms, Difficult Days: Alzheimer's Association Conference.** Sheraton West Des Moines, West Des Moines. Fee varies. Alzheimer's Association, 515/440-2722.
- 29 Advancing Women's Leadership: Roxanne Conlin.** 8 - 9:30 p.m., Memorial Union, Iowa State University, Ames. Iowa State University Lectures, 515/294-9934 or <lectures@iastate.edu>.\

## October

Native American, Domestic Violence, Breast Cancer, and National Disability Employment Awareness Month

- 2 Founding Figures in Iowa Archaeology: Mildred Wedel.** 1 p.m. talk by Hester Davis and 3 p.m. teacher's workshop by Lynn Alex, State Historical Building, Des Moines. Free and open to the public. For information on Wedel or Archaeology Month, contact Lynn Alex at 319/384-0561 or <lynnalex@uiowa.edu>.
- 15 Blow the Whistle on Asthma Walk.** 9 a.m., Jordan Creek Town Center, West Des Moines. To register or for more information, contact the American Lung Association, 515/309-9507.
- 15 World Rural Women's Day.** For more information, visit, <www.ruralwomyn.net/report\_one.html>.
- 19 Love Your Body Day.** For more information, visit, <loveyourbody.nowfoundation.org>.
- 20 Deadly Persuasion: Advertising and Addiction - Jean Kilbourne.** 7 - 8 p.m., Memorial Union, Iowa State University, Ames. Iowa State University Lectures, 515/294-9934 or <lectures@iastate.edu>.
- 26 Iowa Commission on the Status of Women Meeting and Public Hearing.** 10:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Urbandale Public Library, Urbandale. Free and open to the public. Call or write for special accommodations, 800/558-4427, 515/281-4461 or <chr.icsw@iowa.gov>.
- 26 Iowa Women's Foundation 8th Annual Grant Awards Luncheon.** 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Sheraton Hotel, Iowa City. \$40. Speaker: Marie C. Wilson. 888/488.4293, or <turner@iawf.org>.
- 27-28 Midwest Rural and Agricultural Safety and Health Forum.** Stoney Creek Inn, Johnston. Fee varies. Iowa's Center for Agricultural Safety and Health, <www.public-health.uiowa.edu/icash>.

# Bits and Pieces

The ICSW extends a thank you to intern **Kate Albrecht**, who worked during the summer. Albrecht graduated from Drake University in May and will be teaching English in China this fall. She worked primarily with the Iowa Gender-Specific Services Task Force.



The ICSW was saddened to learn of the death of Iowa Women's Hall of Fame member **Minnette Doderer**. Doderer, a longtime public servant, was inducted in 1979. She passed away on August 12, 2005.



**Stroke** is a medical emergency. Know these warning signs of stroke and teach them to others: sudden numbness or weakness of the face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body; sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding; sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes; sudden trouble walking,

dizziness, loss of balance or coordination; and/or sudden, severe headache with no known cause. Initial study suggests that a bystander can recognize a stroke by asking three simple questions: 1. Ask the individual to smile. 2. Ask him or her to raise both arms. 3. Ask the person to speak a simple sentence (coherently). (For example, "It is sunny out today.") If he or she has trouble with any of these tasks, call 911 immediately and describe the symptoms to the dispatcher. Time lost is brain lost.



**The WAGE Project** (Women Are Getting Even) is a new national organization dedicated to closing the wage gap. The interactive website has tools to eliminate gender bias in the workplace, including a calculator to enable women to measure how much the wage gap costs them, state and federal sex discrimination laws, and a

guide for establishing WAGE Clubs and for working for job equity. To learn more, visit <[www.wageproject.org](http://www.wageproject.org)>.



The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants has launched a **financial literacy website**. The site organizes tools for users under six topic areas: Getting Started, Building Your Career, Planning for Your Future, Growing Your Household, Transition and Life-Changing Events, and Owning a Business. The site also includes "Ask the Money Doctor," a feature that allows consumers to seek financial guidance from CPAs and other specialists, and educational resources for women business owners through a partnership with the Department of Labor Women's Bureau. Point your web browser to <[www.360financialliteracy.org/women](http://www.360financialliteracy.org/women)> to learn more.



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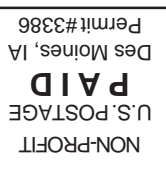
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**on the Status of Women  
Friends of the Iowa Commission**

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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.

Janis Anderson, President

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