

# IOWA WOMEN'S HALL OF FAME

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**AUGUST 26, 2006**



*Making a difference in  
the lives of Iowa women*

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presented by the



The Iowa Commission on the Status of Women is a state agency that seeks to assure equality for Iowa women. The Commission is an advocate for Iowa women, working to equalize women's opportunities and to promote full participation by women in the economic, political, and social life of the state. Established in 1972 by the Iowa Legislature while Robert D. Ray was Governor, the Commission became a division of the Department of Human Rights in the reorganization of state government in 1986. The Commission is composed of nine citizens appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Iowa Senate. Two members of the Iowa Senate, two members of the Iowa House of Representatives and the Director of the Department of Human Rights serve *ex officio*. An administrator and three staff members carry out the Commission's goals.



**Iowa Women’s Hall of Fame 1975-2006 Inductees** ..... Pages 8-71  
Biographies are as they were written at the time of induction.

**Iowa Women’s Hall of Fame Updates** ..... Pages i-ix  
Because many of the members have continued to make significant contributions to the state of Iowa and beyond, an update section has been included.

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Many outstanding women helped shape Iowa and many strong female leaders continue to contribute their talents and skills to improve the quality of life in this state. To recognize and honor these achievers and to provide visible examples for tomorrow's female leaders, the Iowa Commission on the Status of Women established the Iowa Women's Hall of Fame in 1975. Each year, the Commission solicits nominations of women, living or deceased, who have had a significant impact on our society. Anyone may submit a nomination. The four inductees chosen yearly by a five-member selection committee and the Commission are honored by the Governor and Lieutenant Governor at a special ceremony. The accompanying biographies of the Hall of Fame honorees in this book describe the accomplishments responsible for their selection at the time of their induction.

## *Amelia Jenks Bloomer*

Amelia Jenks Bloomer will always be remembered as the popularizer of bloomers, the reform dress costume worn by women's rights advocates in the mid-1800s. Though she did not create the practical costume—a short dress and trousers—she wrote about it frequently in her Seneca Falls, New York, newspaper, *The Lily*. Born in New York in 1818, Bloomer moved to Council Bluffs, Iowa in 1855 and soon began a single-handed women's rights campaign. She gained fame and respect throughout Iowa because of her public championship of women's rights, a courageous step few other advocates of the cause took in the years before the Civil War. Bloomer helped found the Iowa Woman Suffrage Association and was elected president in 1871 at the first annual convention in Des Moines. She died in 1894.

*"She seems to be the only woman in Iowa to publicly espouse women's rights in the years before the Civil War."*

—Louise R. Noun,  
*Strong-Minded Women*, 1969

## *Carrie Chapman Catt*

Carrie Chapman Catt, probably the most famous Iowan associated with the women's suffrage movement, was born in 1859 and grew up near Charles City, Iowa. A feminist from her earliest school days, Catt was responsible for creating a women's physical education program at Iowa State Agricultural College (now ISU), where she graduated in 1880. Though she did not become fully involved in the women's movement until 1885, in 1900 she succeeded Susan B. Anthony as president of the National Woman Suffrage Association. In 1919, she helped found the National League of Women Voters. After Catt left Iowa, she continued to help women in their unsuccessful struggle to amend the Iowa Constitution to allow women to vote, long before the ratification of the 19th Amendment in 1920, seeing through her efforts until finally the 19th Amendment was ratified. Catt died in 1947.

*"If historians are asked who are the most significant of Iowa State University's alumni, three names surface: George Washington Carver, Henry A. Wallace, and Carrie Chapman Catt."*

—Marsha Readhead, 1989



## *Ola Babcock Miller*

Ola Babcock Miller was Iowa's first female Secretary of State. Initially elected in 1932, she was reelected twice. Miller died in 1937 at age 65 while serving her third term. Born in 1872 in Washington County, Miller attended Iowa Wesleyan College. Although she was active in the late 19th-century woman suffrage movement, Miller is best remembered as the founder of the Iowa State Patrol. While Secretary of State, she convinced the state legislature that a statewide law enforcement agency was needed, particularly to enforce highway safety laws. The patrol was created in 1935 and placed under her control, where it grew from a force of 50 men to 150 patrol officers by 1938. Miller also served as state and national president of the P.E.O.

*"Not only did Miller launch the Highway Patrol, she scored another triumph for women; she was Iowa's first female secretary of state."*

—Walt Shotwell, *The Des Moines Register*, August 12, 1989

## *Annie Wittenmyer*

Annie Wittenmyer, known as Iowa's wartime hero, was living in Keokuk, Iowa when she first became concerned about sanitation for the wounded and the cleanliness of the food served to soldiers during the Civil War. She worked throughout the war to improve sanitary conditions, organizing diet kitchens for Union Army hospitals as well as serving on a hospital ship at the battle of Shiloh. Most of her time, however, was spent at the Iowa Soldiers Orphans Home that started in Farmington in 1864 and later moved to Davenport. Over the next 10 years, more than 720 children were cared for at the home and at branches in Cedar Falls and Glenwood. Born in 1827, Wittenmyer died in 1900 at age 73. The Davenport Institution was renamed the Iowa Annie Wittenmyer Home nearly 50 years after her death.

*"...there is one name among them all [Iowa's daughters] we will ever cherish in our hearts... a name which every true woman delights to honor; a name that shall ever live in the heart of a grateful state—the name of ANNIE WITTENMYER!"*

—Mary Darwin, 1863

## *Susan Glaspell*

Susan Glaspell, Davenport, Iowa native, was awarded the Pulitzer Prize in 1930 for *Allison's House*, a play based on the life of poet Emily Dickinson. Born in 1882, she began her writing career at the turn of the century as a political reporter for the *Des Moines Daily Capital*. Glaspell soon moved back to Davenport to concentrate on fiction writing. She later journeyed to Provincetown, Massachusetts and, with her husband, founded the Provincetown Playhouse where playwright Eugene O'Neill's plays were produced. In addition to her plays, Glaspell wrote several novels that probe the psychology of women reacting to the ordinary problems of life. Her last novel was *Judd Rankin's Daughter*, published three years before her death in 1948 at age 66.

*"Quietly and with keen psychological insight, Miss Glaspell probes into these minds [of her characters] with a physician's care to cure rather than to wound."*

—Harry Warfel, *American Novelists of Today*, 1951

## *Cora Bussey Hillis*

Cora Bussey Hillis is most famous for her long and effective campaigns to improve child welfare. The Iowa Child Welfare Association, which she organized in 1914, successfully pushed for legislation establishing the child welfare research station at the University of Iowa in 1917. The research station was the first in the United States to be incorporated in a state university and became the roots of The University of Iowa's complex for research and the study of child development and behavior. Hillis also organized the first Parent Teacher's Association branch in Iowa and served as president of the organization for six years. Born in Bloomfield in 1858, she died in 1924 at age 66. Hillis Elementary School in Des Moines is named for this children's advocate.

*"Cora's sensitivities were acute and her visions reached beyond her own life and beyond Des Moines, Iowa to a regeneration of the race through enlightened parenthood."*

—Ginalie Swaim,  
*Palimpsest*, Vol. 60, 1979

## *Agnes Samuelson*

Agnes Samuelson, an influential force in Iowa education for over 30 years, was born in Shenandoah in 1887. She served as state Superintendent of Public Instruction—then an elective office—from 1927 to 1939 and was also president of the National Education Association and executive secretary of the Iowa State Education Association. As Page County Superintendent of Schools, Samuelson gained national recognition as an authority on providing services to rural schools and the need for school consolidation. She urged adoption of the current school-aid formula that provides equal education for all Iowa children regardless of the property wealth in their home district. A Des Moines elementary school was named for Samuelson after her death in 1963 at age 76.

*"Perhaps no Iowa woman has had more impact on education and the teaching profession than has Agnes Samuelson."*

*—Iowa State Education Association, 1976*

## *Ruth Baxton Sayre*

Ruth Baxton Sayre was once Iowa's premier farm spokeswoman. As the only women member appointed by President Eisenhower to his national agricultural advisory commission, she received national recognition for her knowledge of agricultural problems and her many years of service to farm people. Sayre's best-known efforts on behalf of rural Americans were through the Farm Bureau and the organization she helped found—Associated Country Women of the World. She also served on the advisory committee to the United States Secretary of Labor and the National Safety Council, and was appointed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt to the National Civilian Defense Committee. In addition, she held posts in two United Nations organizations. Sayre was born in Indianola in 1896. She died in 1980 at age 84.

*Tribute to Mrs. Sayre  
(Tune: "It's a Grand Old Flag")  
She's a grand old gal,  
She's a wonderful gal...  
She's for Farm Bureau too  
And we're with her in thought  
and in prayer. She's our shining  
star Adored, near and far,  
Our beloved Mrs. Sayre.*

## *Jessie Binford*

Jessie Binford, once known as "the conscience of Chicago," was a longtime associate of Jane Adams, founder of Chicago's Hull House. She was born in Marshalltown in 1876 and worked for 60 years as a social worker and advocate for the poor at Hull House on Chicago's slum-ridden west side. In her efforts for children's rights, Binford opposed child labor in the garment industry. She founded the Juvenile Protection Association and was its director for decades. At over 80 years of age, she waged a two-year court fight to save Hull House from demolition. When she lost, Binford returned to Marshalltown, where she organized a club for underprivileged boys. Shortly before her death in 1966 at age 90, she donated her family home to the community and moved into a hotel.

*"In her six decades as a social worker, Miss Binford battled with local and state politicians in what she called a crusade aimed at the delinquency of adults against children."*

*—The Des Moines Register,  
July 11, 1966*

## *Jessie Field Shambaugh*

Jessie Field Shambaugh founded the modern 4-H movement. Born in 1881 on a farm near Shenandoah, Shambaugh taught country school, creating practical farm and home courses for her rural students as part of the regular curriculum. She introduced clubs and competitions in modern agriculture, such as soil testing and corn judging, for both boys and girls. Later, as Page County superintendent of schools, she expanded these clubs and contests to include all rural children. Within three years, her methods attracted national attention and the national 4-H youth movement was begun. Shambaugh wrote several books including *Country Girl's Creed*, which memorializes the 4-H movement. In 1912, she became national YWCA secretary for rural work. Shambaugh died in 1971 at age 90.

*"There has been some discussion as to who was the 'Daddy' of boys and girls club work, but there isn't the slightest doubt on the part of anyone as to who is the 'Mother' of the 4-H club movement. That great honor goes to Miss Jessie Field."*

*—R.K. Bliss, 1948*

## *Ida B. Wise Smith*

Ida B. Wise Smith fought for woman suffrage and child welfare through the Women's Christian Temperance Union and was instrumental in establishing the women's reformatory at Rockwell City. She served as president of the National WCTU for 11 years and as president of the Iowa WCTU for 20 years. In 1927, Governor Hamill named Smith the "most distinguished woman in Iowa" for her contributions to child welfare. While chairperson of one committee on children, Smith prepared a children's code for the Iowa Legislature. In 1930, President Hoover appointed her to the White House Conference on Child Health and Protection, and in 1940 she was appointed to the White House Conference on Children in a Democracy. Born in 1871, this Hamburg native died in 1952 at age 81.

*"In my book,  
Ida B. Wise Smith of Des  
Moines was one of the  
greatest of all Iowans."  
—George Mills,  
The Des Moines Register,  
April 4, 1993*

## *Mary Louise Smith*

Mary Louise Smith rose through Republican party ranks to become the first woman to chair the party, serving in that capacity from 1974 to 1977. Since her tenure followed Watergate, Smith was faced with the task of rebuilding confidence in the Republican Party at a time when the nation's faith in the entire political system had diminished. A force in Republican politics for more than 30 years, Smith, of Des Moines, refuses to consider her election as the first female head of the GOP extraordinary. She explained, "A woman's role in politics is the same as that of a man." Born in Eddyville in 1914, Smith is a staunch supporter of the Equal Rights Amendment and a leader in the women's movement. She is one of six cofounders of the Iowa Women's Political Caucus.

*"Mary Louise, by far,  
has reached her fullest  
potential and has  
scored her greatest  
achievements  
in political service."  
—Mary Tone, 1997*

## *Jacqueline Day*

Jacqueline Day, in 1969, arranged the initial conference of representatives from women's organizations that resulted in Governor Robert D. Ray establishing the Commission on the Status of Women. As one of the first members of the Iowa Commission on the Status of Women, she worked to secure its state department status. Day was also instrumental in organizing the Commission's first annual Iowa Women's Hall of Fame awards. Employed as the public relations officer for the Veterans Administration Hospital in Des Moines for many years, Day also worked as a national Equal Employment Opportunity investigator for the Veterans Administration. In 1967 and 1970, she visited Vietnam as a member of a Congressional fact-finding team. A lifelong resident of Des Moines, Day was born in 1918.

*"Jacqueline Day has worked vigorously in politics during a period of time when most thought a woman's place was in the kitchen. During the Vietnam war, she went to Vietnam to learn first hand if we were being told the truth of that controversial conflict."*

*—Judith Fisher, 1978*

## *Dorothy Houghton*

Dorothy Houghton was the first female president of the Electoral College Board. Especially remembered as the "club woman's club woman" for her activities as national president of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, her public service covered a broad spectrum. In 1949, she was designated Iowa's most distinguished citizen. In 1953, President Eisenhower appointed her director of the Office of Refugees, Migratory and Voluntary Assistance, where she served for five years, coordinating services for 40 million refugees. In 1964, she received The University of Iowa's Distinguished Service Award, honoring her 12-year tenure on the Iowa Board of Regents. Houghton was also a strong women's rights advocate. Born in Red Oak, Iowa in 1890, she died in 1972.

*"Dorothy Houghton... never took the view that everything was better in the good old days. Always her thoughts seemed to be on the future and how to make this world a better one."*

*—The Des Moines Register, 1972*



## *Carolyn Pendray*

Carolyn Pendray, of Maquoketa, was the first female to serve in the Iowa Legislature. Born in Mount Pleasant in 1881, she was elected from Jackson County to the House of Representatives in 1928, two years after women were first allowed to serve in the Iowa Legislature. She was re-elected in 1930. In 1932, she won a state Senate seat, unseating an incumbent to become the first woman to serve in that body. She was the only woman to have served in both chambers at the time of her death in 1958 at the age of 76. As a legislator, Pendray cosponsored a bill permitting a wife to hold certain property of her own, exempt from seizure for debt. Prior to this law, only the husband was recognized as head of a household, and only he could claim property exempt from seizure for debt.

*"Carolyn Pendray was a pragmatic idealist who was able to work with the Legislative system for the enactment of laws that benefited all but especially the rights of women."*

—Miriam C. Diehl, 1978

## *Ruth Suckow*

Ruth Suckow was a writer whose novels and short stories reflected her Iowa background. A Hawarden native, she began her writing career as a poet, soon discovering that she could not earn a living from her poems. Suckow, therefore, mastered the art of beekeeping and supported herself by selling honey while she began writing novels and short stories. In the 1920s, Suckow was ranked as one of the top 10 American fiction writers by H.L. Mencken, a noted critic and publisher. Her writing is of special interest to feminists because of its portrayal of strong, independent women. Two of her novels, *Country People* and *Iowa Interiors*, were reissued in the 1970s in a series titled *Rediscovered Fiction by American Women*. Born in 1892, Suckow died in 1960.

*"Ruth Suckow is especially interesting to young feminists because of her own life and because of her portrayal of many strong, independent women who refused to be placed in a mold."*

—Margaret Matlack Kiesel, 1978

## *Minnette Doderer*

Minnette Doderer of Iowa City has been the leading advocate of women's rights during her distinguished 15-year career in the state legislature. Born in Holland, Iowa in 1923, she was elected three times each to the House of Representatives and the Senate, beginning her tenure of office in 1964. Doderer's work on rape law reform, the federal and state Equal Rights Amendments, juvenile justice, child care, and inheritance tax revision resulted in many laws that improved the legal status of women. As president pro tempore of the Senate for two years, she attained the highest position ever held by a woman in the Iowa Legislature. Doderer was one of the founding members of the Iowa Women's Political Caucus and cochair of the International Women's Year coordinating committee.

*"Minnette Doderer, tough-minded and outspoken, is the leading feminist in the Iowa legislature... Doderer's efforts on behalf of women are unflagging."*  
—Louise R. Noun,  
*More Strong-Minded Women, 1992*

## *Mabel Lee*

Mabel Lee, a pioneer in women's physical education, was born in Clearfield, Iowa in 1886. As a high school sophomore in Centerville, Iowa in 1902, she started girls' basketball. After administrative jobs at Coe College, Oregon Agricultural College, and Beloit College, Lee served as director of physical education for women at the University of Nebraska for 28 years. She was the first woman president of the American Alliance of Health, Physical Education and Recreation, and the American Academy of Physical Education. During World War II, Lee served as a regional director of physical fitness under the Office of Civilian Defense, was a member of the physical fitness council of the Federal Security Agency, and was on the civilian advisory committee for the Women's Army Corps. She lives in Lincoln, Nebraska.

*"Mabel Lee was a woman of boldness and vision. Committed to quality physical education and sports programs for girls, she was responsible for the creation of some of the first girls' basketball teams in Iowa."*  
—Dr. Patricia Geadelmann, 1994



## *Mary Jane Odell*

Mary Jane Odell, a nationally recognized broadcaster, gained fame throughout Iowa for her weekend public affairs program, IPBN Presents Mary Jane Odell. After hosting several radio and television programs in Des Moines during the 1950s and 1960s, Odell moved to Chicago, where she continued her broadcasting career, receiving an Emmy in 1972 for "outstanding individual achievement." In 1975, the year Odell returned to Des Moines, she received a second Emmy for a Chicago interview with Leon Jaworski. She also received a National Broadcaster's Award for work on IPBN's "Assignment Iowa." Odell founded the Iowa chapter of the American Women in Radio and TV and served on the board of the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists. She was born in Algona, Iowa in 1923.

*"Mary Jane Odell's... brilliant career in the communication field [has] made her a substantial asset to the State of Iowa."*  
—Mary A. Grefe, 1994

## *Louise Rosenfeld*

Louise Rosenfeld, as state home economics director of Iowa State University's Cooperative Extension Service for over 30 years, extended her program to every county in the state. Rosenfeld expanded the orientation of the extension program to include education in global awareness and the arts, as well as programs in nutrition, home management, and child care. The United States Department of Agriculture recognized Rosenfeld's innovative leadership of Iowa's home economics extension program by awarding her the USDA Superior Service Award. Following her retirement in 1972, Professor Emeritus Rosenfeld worked as a professional volunteer in Iowa State University's International Resource Center and served on the Iowa Commission for the Aging. She was born in Kelly, Iowa in 1906.

*"Certainly, few women have had the influence on the state that Louise Rosenfeld has had. As State Leader of Home Economics Extension, she lead an education program that went to every county of the state and was available to every family."*  
—Margaret K. Yoder, 1979

## *Rosa Cunningham*

Rosa Cunningham, an outstanding achiever in the military and a leader in the women's movement, served almost nine years as an enlisted woman and officer in the Women's Army Corps during World War II and remains active in several veterans' organizations. Cunningham has been a leading spokeswoman for women since her involvement during the 1930s in the fight against so-called protective labor legislation for female workers that outlawed night work and placed "Mother" restrictions on women's employment. Also in the 1930s, she swayed the National Federation of Business and Professional Women to endorse the Equal Rights Amendment, making it the first large, national group to do so. Cunningham was appointed to the Iowa Commission on the Status of Women in 1978. She lives in Des Moines.

*"Rosa Cunningham made a difference in all of our lives. She was a woman of courage with strongly-held convictions and a highly principled commitment to equality."*

*—Dr. Sue Follon, 1994*

## *Mary A. Grefe*

Mary A. Grefe, a leader in educational policy from Des Moines, was elected to a two-year term as national president of the American Association of University Women in 1979. She has distinguished herself in shaping educational policy as presidential delegate to the UNESCO Third World Conference on Adult Education, as chairperson of the U.S. Advisory Committee on Adult Education, and as a member of the Des Moines School Board for 12 years. She was also a member of the United States delegation to the United Nations Mid-Decade Conference for Women. A former YWCA director, Grefe has worked as a professional consultant on organizational development and is a member of the boards of directors of Central National Bank and Bankers Life companies in Des Moines. She was born in 1928.

*"To Mary Grefe, all the world is her neighborhood."*  
*—Kathleen Wood,*  
*The Des Moines Register,*  
*January 14, 1987*

## *Arabella Mansfield*

Arabella Mansfield became the first woman lawyer in the United States when she passed the bar examination in Henry County in 1869. Born in 1846, she did not attend law school but studied for two years in her brother's law office in Mount Pleasant to prepare for the exam. She was also a pioneer in the Iowa suffrage movement, chairing the first Iowa Suffrage Association state convention in 1870. She was the group's first secretary and campaigned for equal educational opportunities for women as well as voting rights. Despite Mansfield's admission to the bar, she spent her professional life teaching. She was professor of English at Iowa Wesleyan College and later, dean of the school of art and music at De Pauw University in Indiana. Mansfield died in 1911 at age 65.

*"There was a quiet determination and dedication in every event of the life of Belle A. Mansfield."*

*—Dr. Louis A. Haselmayer,  
Women's Lawyer Journal,  
Spring 1969*

## *Catherine G. Williams*

Catherine G. Williams, an exemplary leader in social services, has worked for the Iowa Department of Social Services for nearly 30 years. Ultimately deputy commissioner of the department, she began her career as a typist. Williams has been responsible for many innovations in social service delivery in Iowa, particularly in foster care programming. She held the first statewide training program for foster parents of retarded child and wrote the department's first foster care study. The Des Moines native became the highest-ranking African-American female in state government and one of the highest ranking in social services nationally. Born in 1914, Williams spent 13 years right after high school graduation as a professional dancer in New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles.

*"Catherine Williams' involvement in managing the Iowa Department of Social Services has brought prominence and pride to the State of Iowa and to her local community of Des Moines."*

*—Marcia Peterson &  
Thomas Jones, Jr., 1979*

## *Mary Newbury Adams*

Mary Newbury Adams, of Dubuque, Iowa helped establish the Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs and made major contributions to the women's suffrage movement. In 1868, she formed her first study club as a way to increase women's knowledge and education. Adams was later instrumental in uniting similar clubs together statewide into an association, the predecessor of the still-existing Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs. Adams' suffrage work began in 1869. Following an inspiring speech by Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Adams founded the Northern Iowa Suffrage Association, the first suffrage organization in Iowa. Gradually, she started working with nationally known suffragists as she strove to unite women to gain their equal educational and legal rights. Born in 1837, Adams died in 1901.

*"Adams, one of the founders of the Republican party in Dubuque, was an ardent women's rights advocate."*

—Louise R. Noun,  
*Strong-Minded Women, 1969*

## *Roxanne Barton Conlin*

Roxanne Barton Conlin founded and was the first chair of the Iowa Women's Political Caucus, the largest caucus in the nation for many years. She has also made major contributions to her profession. After graduating from Drake University College of Law at age 21, she worked as deputy industrial commissioner, assistant attorney general for the Iowa Civil Rights Commission, consultant to the United States Commission on the Observance of International Women's Year, and University of Iowa adjunct professor of law. She was then appointed United States Attorney for the southern district of Iowa. Conlin is the second woman in the nation to be appointed to this post and is one of only four to have ever served in this capacity. Born in 1944, Conlin lives in Des Moines.

*"Roxanne Conlin is the name that immediately comes to the fore when you mention feminism in Iowa."*

—Louise R. Noun,  
*More Strong-Minded Women, 1992*

## *Mary Garst*

Mary Garst, a pioneer in the field of agriculture, is one of only a few women in the country to manage a cattle-breeding business. She is in charge of genetic selections, bull selections, nutritional programs, and cattle sales for the Garst Company in Coon Rapids. She has served as state director of the Iowa Beef Improvement Association and president of the Iowa Simmental Cattle Association. Garst serves on the boards of directors of the Chicago Federal Reserve, International Harvester, Burlington Northern Railroad, and Northwestern Bell Telephone. Her concern for women is shown through her involvement with the League of Women Voters in Iowa, Planned Parenthood of Iowa, and the Iowa Children's and Family Services. Garst was born in 1928.

*"Mary Garst is an example to men or women who aspire to the American ideals of family and professional success and personal warmth. She is exemplary. I can't say more."*

—Victor Preisser, 1978

## *Louise Rosenfield Noun*

Louise Rosenfield Noun of Des Moines has been involved with the Iowa and American Civil Liberties Unions for years. For eight years she was president of the ICLU; and during the 1960s and 1970s, she was a board member of the ACLU. In 1971, she helped found the Des Moines chapter of the National Organization for Women. She has been involved with the Iowa League of Women Voters since the 1940s, when she was Des Moines' chapter president. Noun is also a writer. Her book, *Strong-Minded Women*, is a history of the woman suffrage movement in Iowa. Noun's other writings also reflect her feminist commitment since they include histories of Iowa's first legislative clerk, suffragist Annie Savery, voting rights in Iowa, and trends in the women's rights movement. She was born in 1908.

*"Noun's words rather than her deeds provide leadership for a new generation with the responsibility of keeping alive the rights she and several others fought for."*

—Mark P. Couch, *Business Record*, October 15-21, 1990

### *Peg Stair Anderson*

Peg Stair Anderson, member of the Iowa Board of Regents, former state chair of the Iowa Women's Political Caucus, and the Iowa ERA Coalition, has been active in diverse areas of public service for many years. She serves on the boards of the Iowa Advisory Committee of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, the Iowa Health Systems Agency, and the Iowa Commission on the Status of Women. Anderson was a founder of the Cedar Falls-Waterloo Women's Center and the Women's Political Caucus Girls' Leadership Camp. As a member of the Cedar Falls Board of Education for six years, she provided strong leadership to ensure equal opportunity for females and males. Anderson has been active in the Episcopal Church at the local, state, and national level. Born in 1928, she lives in Bettendorf, Iowa.

*"A true leader, Peg has a strong belief in women, their individual worth, and their right to realize full and creative lives. She is perennially in the forefront of women's rights groups, voicing her beliefs, living her convictions, and working long and hard to realize her goals."*

*—Joy Corning, 1979*

### *Ruth Bluford Anderson*

Ruth Bluford Anderson, University of Northern Iowa associate professor of social work, has been especially interested in and actively involved in female substance abuse issues. She served as cochair of the first statewide institute on the problems of women alcoholics, was a member of the Iowa Substance Abuse Commission, and was honored by the Des Moines unit of the National Council on Alcoholism for bringing the special problems of the female alcoholic to the attention of alcoholism treatment professionals. Anderson has contributed her leadership abilities to the Iowa Coalition of Community Organizations, the Iowa Mental Health Association, and local and interstate branches of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. She was born in 1921.

*"I have personally known Ruth Anderson for over ten years, and she has constantly contributed toward the betterment of the disadvantaged and misunderstood."*

*—Margaret Rees*



## *Pearl Hogrefe*

Pearl Hogrefe's career as a distinguished scholar, teacher, and author spanned eight years, including seven years at the University of Northern Iowa. During her 46 years as professor of English at Iowa State University, she founded the creative writing program, a magazine devoted to the arts and the Writers' Round Table. An internationally renowned scholar and author of seven books, Hogrefe wrote several works of particular distinction about women's role in Tudor, England. To honor her leadership in the American Association of University Women at the state and national level, a state AAUW Fellowship was named for her. In 1972, the Pearl Hogrefe Endowment Fellowship was established at ISU to provide creative writing awards. Born in 1889, Hogrefe died in 1977.

*"Pearl Hogrefe was a powerful force for humane learning within the state of Iowa, as well as nationally and internationally... Her widely influential former students and colleagues measure in the hundreds."*

—Jauvanta M. Walker, 1977

## *Dr. Jeanne Montgomery Smith*

Dr. Jeanne Montgomery Smith, the first woman physician to join the Internal Medicine Department of the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, has taught allergy and immunology to medical students at Iowa since 1955. She has an international reputation in the epidemiology of asthma, having originated a new theory of environmental factors as the cause of this chronic condition now pursued by investigators throughout the world. With her husband, Dr. Smith founded a new medical school at East Tennessee University in Johnston City, Tennessee in 1976-1978. She has written extensively for professional journals and college textbooks and has also been active in community service. Born in 1917, Dr. Smith began her career as a surgeon lieutenant in the men's Canadian Navy during World War II.

*"A doctor who has done significant research and writing, she has combined an abiding interest in her family with a real sense of community concern underlined by her remarkable service to foreign visitors in Iowa."*

—Susan K. Boyd, 1981

## *Virginia P. Bedell*

Virginia P. Bedell was the first woman county attorney in the state of Iowa, having studied for the bar not in law school but with a practicing attorney in Spirit Lake, Iowa. In 1940, with her appointment to the Iowa Board of Parole, she became the first woman in the United States to serve on a regularly appointed Parole Board. During her 19 years of continuous service there, Bedell was elected president of the Central States Corrections Association and was active in other state and national corrections organizations. As a member of the American Legion Auxiliary, Bedell initiated a program known as "Assigned Children," which has helped thousands of needy children of veterans. Bedell was appointed to the first Governor's Commission on Alcoholism and was a leader in her church and in the Republican Party. Born to pioneer parents in 1895, she died in 1975.

*"I recall being included in a Bedell family outing to a ski jump at Canton, South Dakota when the temperature was bitterly sub-zero. Virginia might well have enjoyed a nap in her warm home, but I doubt the thought ever crossed her mind..."*

—Peter B. Narey, 1979

## *Evelyn K. Scott Davis*

Evelyn K. Scott Davis, of Des Moines, is a creator of human resource organizations. She founded the Tiny Tot Child Care Center in 1967 and still directs the large, nonprofit center, dedicated to providing child care to low-income families. The organization has allowed thousands of parents who could not otherwise afford child care to seek employment and educational opportunities. She also initiated or helped to form the Inner Urban Health Board, United Way Volunteer Board, Black Women's Political Caucus, and Polk County Community Action Council. Because of her championship of the causes of struggling families, Davis was honored with the Des Moines Human Rights Award. Numerous state and national organizations have also benefited from her advocacy and leadership abilities, including Day Care and Child Development of America and the Iowa Council for Children. Davis was born in Hiteman, Iowa in 1921.

*"Evelyn Davis was one of the first to raise her voice about the importance of early educational opportunities for kids. Not only did she talk, she did something about it..."*

—Julie Gammack,  
*The Des Moines Register,*  
September 25, 1991



## *Beverly Beth George Everett*

Beverly Beth George Everett has spent a lifetime involved in programs advocating equity for women in Iowa and abroad. Her research and activism have led her into such diverse areas as agriculture and food problems, rural and international development, cross-cultural understanding, and continuing education. As a stellar member of the American Association of University Women, the rural New Sharon, Iowa resident has served on the AAUW National Board of Directors, been its International Representative for International Relations, and served in numerous other capacities. Her multifaceted accomplishments can be seen in an abbreviated list of organizations she has worked for locally, statewide, and nationally. These include the U.S. National Commission for UNESCO, the Iowa Department of Environmental Quality Board of Certification, various advisory committees for Iowa State University, and the Governor's Commission on the Status of Women. Everett was born in Waverly, Iowa in 1926.

*"I've known and admired Bev for many years. Her dedication to the important issues of our time are an inspiration to all of us."*

*—Alice McKee, 1994*

## *Helen LeBaron Hilton*

Helen LeBaron Hilton, the former dean emeritus of the Home Economics College at Iowa State University, urged her graduates to follow her example by involving themselves in public policy-making and programs that would benefit families. Born in Morrisville, Vermont in 1910, Hilton was a member of the National Committee for the 1960 White House Conference on Children and Youth and the U.S. National Commission for UNESCO. During her 23-year tenure as ISU Dean, Hilton directed a decade-long Home Economics Education Project at Baroda University in India and, during this time, was chosen to be the first president of the Association of Home Economics Administrators. Hilton also lent her leadership skills to state and local organizations, serving on the Governor's Commission on the Status of Women and the Iowa Children's and Family Services Board, besides being the first woman elected to the Ames City Council. In 1980, the south wing of the Home Economics Building at ISU was named for Hilton.

*"In a time when equivocation and evasiveness often have seemed to be essential characteristics of some of society's leaders, Dean LeBaron never resorted to either. She has always been a no-nonsense person, and that is refreshing."*

*—W. Robert Parks, 1975*

### *Fannie R. Buchanan*

Fannie R. Buchanan, who grew up in Grinnell, Iowa, touched Iowans in nearly every county in the state through the music projects she conducted for the Iowa State College Extension Service. During the lean years of the Depression, Buchanan brought classical and folk music and vocal and dance instruction to rural Iowans who had limited opportunities for recreation. Buchanan had worked during World War I for the War Camp Community Service and the American Red Cross, organizing special music and rehabilitation projects. After the war, she returned to Iowa and began her travels around the state, organizing rural choruses and staging pageants. Buchanan devoted much of her time to promoting musical activities in 4-H Clubs, and many of the songs she wrote for that organization were designated as official 4-H songs and are still sung today. Buchanan died in 1957.

*"In my estimation, there probably has been no other woman in the history of Iowa who has contributed more to the cultural enlightenment of rural Iowans."*

*—Mary Edna Pilgrim Sherman,  
1983*

### *Mary Frances Clarke, BVM*

Mary Frances Clarke, BVM, born in Dublin, Ireland in 1803, played an important part in the educational and religious formation of this state. She and four other religious women emigrated to America and worked with the poor and illiterate in Philadelphia. In 1833, Clarke organized her community, the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. For 10 years, the sisters labored among the city's downtrodden, before departing for Dubuque, Iowa at the invitation of Bishop Mathias Loras. There they founded St. Mary's Academy, the first women's college in Iowa. After suffering a disastrous fire in 1849, the Academy was reestablished by Clarke as Mount St. Joseph's Academy and College, today known as Clarke College. The Sisters of Charity also started various elementary and secondary schools around the state that have educated generations of Iowans. Clarke died in 1887.

*"Mary Frances Clarke acted as a catalyst in a community that has made her mission as real in 1833 as it is in 1984."*

*—Jane M. Daly, 1984*

## *Mary Louise Petersen*

Mary Louise Petersen's volunteer service has extended from her local community of Harlan, Iowa to national policy bodies; her focus has always been higher education. Petersen served on the State Board of Regents for 12 years, eight of those as president. She also served on the Iowa Coordinating Council for Post-High School Education and became a member of the Professional Ethics and Conduct Committee of the Iowa Bar Association in 1982. Nationally, she has served on such prestigious bodies as that of the Carnegie Corporation and the Association of Governing Boards of Colleges and Universities, and she continues to work with the American Council on Education. In Harlan, Petersen has been an activist in Girl Scouts and in the United Methodist Church. Her outstanding efforts merited her earning the 1981 State of Iowa Distinguished Service Award.

*"A woman as president of the Iowa State Board of Regents was a somewhat startling innovation. The fact that as the first woman so named displayed qualities of leadership that earned her plaudits not only in Iowa but nationally, dispelled many sexist myths."*

—John Baldrige, 1983

## *Edith Rose Murphy Sackett*

Edith Rose Murphy Sackett has pursued a career of voluntarism to her community of Spencer, Iowa, to Iowa, and to the concerns of women for more than 50 years. She helped found local branches of the AAUW and League of Women Voters and also lent her talent and energy to the Spencer Women's Club, YWCA, and Clay County Republican Women. As a leader at the state level, she served on the State Library Board, on the state board of the AAUW, and on the Iowa Commission on the Status of Women, where she chaired the first Iowa Women's Hall of Fame Committee. Sackett's love for the theatre resulted in her founding the Spencer Drama Club, the forerunner of many drama organizations in the Iowa Great Lakes region. In addition to many other honors, Edith was named Iowa Mother of the Year in 1969. She was born in Dubuque, Iowa in 1901.

*"There are... a group of persons that are 'behind-the-scenes doers.' They do many things voluntarily that in and of themselves may not be that impressive. Taken as a whole, however, their accomplishments are great. Edith Sackett is one of those doers."*

—James R. Grove, 1983

### *Dr. Gladys B. Black*

Dr. Gladys B. Black is known for her untiring efforts to educate Iowans about their natural surroundings and the need for protecting the environment for future generations. Her columns on Iowa's native birds have appeared regularly in *The Des Moines Register* and other publications, and she has led hundreds of school children on nature hikes where they discovered the beauty of Iowa's countryside and wildlife. In 1978, she was awarded an honorary doctorate degree from Simpson College, Indianola, for being one of the nation's leading ornithologists, with a special knowledge of the nesting and migration patterns of American birds. In addition, her early distinguished work as a public health nurse in rural Iowa underscores her reputation as a humanitarian and conservationist. She was born on a farm east of Pleasantville, Iowa in 1909.

*"If there are such things as human treasures I feel us Iowans have one in Gladys Black. We here in Iowa are very fortunate to have such a person who has spent so much of her time and energies working to help preserve our natural surroundings..."*

—Wade E. Sheeler, 1983

### *Edna M. Griffin*

Edna M. Griffin has been the Rosa Parks of Des Moines for decades; however, her request for service at a segregated cafeteria there in 1948 came seven years before Parks' celebrated refusal to move to the back of a southern bus. Ultimately, Griffin's legal suits and sit-ins were successful in making such businesses obey Iowa's public accommodations law. The Fisk University graduate has devoted her life to the civil rights movement. In 1963, she organized Iowans to join Martin Luther King's famous march on Washington, D.C. She also began a Des Moines chapter of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), which supported the voter registration drive in the South. For many years, her column appeared regularly in Iowa's statewide minority publication, the *Iowa Bystander*. She has also been active in peace and other human rights efforts. Born in Kentucky in 1909, she grew up on a New Hampshire farm and moved to Des Moines in 1947.

*"Every community has its Rosa Parks... and Edna Griffin has been the Rosa Parks of the Des Moines community for a long time. This is a civil rights warrior who knew her battleground."*

—Adin Davis, *The Des Moines Register*, August 21, 1983

## *Anna B. Lawther*

Anna B. Lawther was a pioneer in women's rights, woman suffrage, higher education, and community participation. Born in 1872, she was educated in Dubuque, Iowa and traveled east to attend college, receiving her B.A. degree from Bryn Mawr in 1897. Lawther served as secretary of that college for 15 years, before returning to her hometown in 1912 and becoming deeply involved in civic and social welfare activities. She was quickly caught up in the suffrage struggle and, as president of the Iowa Equal Suffrage Association, worked to secure women's right to vote. After the 19th Amendment became law, she was named Iowa's first Democratic National Committeewoman and traveled the state to inform new voters about the party. As the first woman appointed to the Iowa State Board of Education in 1921, Lawther was a strong voice for women in higher education for 20 years. In honor of her efforts, a women's residence hall at what is now the University of Northern Iowa was named for her in 1937. Lawther died in 1957.

*"Anna Lawther, by serving as the first woman member of the Board of Regents, proved her faith in women's educability and left Iowa women a legacy of opportunity by becoming a role model of courage and integrity, despite the social restraints on her career."*

—Mary A. Grefe, 1994

## *Alice Van Wert Murray*

Alice Van Wert Murray, in addition to being an active farm owner-operator, has been a "super-volunteer" all of her life. Her primary concerns have been rural women, safety issues, Iowa State University (ISU), 4-H, and the Presbyterian Church. Born in 1912, the Minnesota native graduated from ISU in 1934 and has remained a devoted and active alumna, recognized many times by the university for her contributions. Throughout her life, Murray has been concerned with international understanding and was an eight-time delegate to the Associated Country Women of the World Conference. Out of her farming background evolved an interest in safety, and, as a leading representative of the National Safety Council, she was an innovator on many safety campaigns, initiating Iowa's first defensive driver course. Murray has also been an advocate for women and children on numerous state advisory committees on day care, education, and environmental health. Currently, she works at promoting and developing Living History Farms, founded by her husband William Murray.

*"For many years, I have known of the good work that Alice has been doing for the state of Iowa and especially for Iowa women... her warm, humane, and persistent approach has invariably proved to be most effective."*

—W. Robert Parks, 1984



## *Marguerite Esters Cothorn*

Marguerite Esters Cothorn, born in Albia, Iowa in 1909, has been involved in human services, voluntarism, and music for more than 40 years. She was the first African American to be offered a four-year violin scholarship at Drake University, where she obtained a B.A. and an advanced degree in sociology. In 1954, she completed her second advanced degree, an M.A. in social work from The University of Iowa with a minor in psychology. Throughout her career, she focused on developing and organizing community-centered volunteer services and programs. In 1965, she was appointed to the United Way of Central Iowa. As Associate Director of Planning, she was reportedly the first African-American executive of a United Way Agency nationwide. She organized and directed the Des Moines Volunteer Bureau and Retired Senior Volunteer Program and set precedents for correcting the under-utilization of food stamps by elders. Her volunteer service has included the state Republican Party and the Iowa Civil Rights Commission. Cothorn formally retired in 1973 but continues to be a strong and effective leader on several boards and commissions.

*"Marguerite has 'presence,'  
an undefinable dignity  
which inspires respect and  
admiration from everyone  
who has the privilege of  
meeting her."  
—Mary A. Grefe*

## *Willie Stevenson Glanton*

Willie Stevenson Glanton has been dedicated to the law, human services, and civil rights. Educated in Tennessee and in Washington, D.C., she was admitted to the Iowa Bar in 1953. In the 1960s, the U.S. State Department sent her to Africa and Southeast Asia to compare laws and their application to women in these countries. In the U.S., Glanton was the first woman Assistant Polk County Attorney. She has served as an attorney and equal opportunity advocate with the Small Business Administration since 1966. She is the first African-American female to be elected to the Iowa State Legislature. Glanton has held leadership positions on numerous boards, commissions and councils, and in church, civic, and community organizations. A member of *Who's Who in America*, she is the first woman and first African American to be elected president of the Iowa Chapter Federal Bar Association and represented that association in a people-to-people tour of China, Finland, and the Soviet Union in 1986.

*"Willie Stevenson Glanton is,  
indeed, a pioneer in every  
meaning of the word in  
respect to the potential of  
women and minorities; she  
has succeeded with both  
competence and grace where  
the difficulties seemed  
insuperable."  
—Wesley C. Baker, 1986*

## *Jessie M. Parker*

Jessie M. Parker was born February 25, 1879 in Lake Mills, Iowa. She furthered her education at colleges and universities in Grinnell, Iowa; Cedar Falls, Iowa; Des Moines; and Valparaiso, Indiana. From 1897 to 1915, Parker taught the third and eighth grades in the Lake Mills school system and became the city's first woman high school principal. When she became superintendent in 1927, she was appointed school supervisor and inspector for Iowa's Standard Rural Schools. In 1938, Parker became State Superintendent of Public Instruction. As superintendent, Parker reorganized the school system, established professional teacher certification guidelines, expanded curriculum aids, revised the school accounting system, and developed the "home-to-school" phone system for ill children. Parker served one term on the Lake Mills Community School Board. In recognition of her contributions to education, Parker was included in the 1940 edition of *Who's Who in America*. Parker died May 1, 1959.

*"The impact of her leadership and promotion of education has been felt throughout Iowa, barring possibly only a few schools to which she has not made a personal visit."*  
—*Mills Graphic*, May 6, 1959

## *Dorothy Schramm*

Dorothy Schramm has focused on world affairs, government, and art. A Burlington resident, she has been state president and national vice-president of the United Nations Association, chair of the First U.N. Day, member of national and international assemblies and committees, and author and editor on world affairs. She is on the steering committee for the National Peace Institute in Iowa. Schramm organized the Burlington League of Women Voters, served on state and national League boards, and authored the *Handbook for Citizens*. She was first chair of her city's Planning and Zoning Commission. The Human Relations Survey that she organized resulted in the end of her city's public segregation, several "firsts" in employment, a Mayor's Civic Unity Commission, and a local NAACP. Her concern for justice has been expressed by her work on the Iowa Council of Judicial Reform and the Judicial Selection Committee. A collector of contemporary and African art, she has organized and supported art associations and councils. Schramm's honors include the 1971 University of Iowa Distinguished Service Award and an LLD degree from Grinnell College.

*"Since our formation in 1953, Dorothy Schramm has been the guiding force in our organization. Very simply, Dorothy is the United Nations Association of Iowa."*  
—*Dorothy M. Paul*, 1985

## *Jolly Ann Horton Davidson*

Jolly Ann Horton Davidson, native of Davenport, Iowa and resident of Clarinda, Iowa, is distinguished for commitment to public service, contributions to public broadcasting, and dedication to excellence and equity in education. From 1973 to 1986, she was a member of the Iowa State Board of Public Instruction, serving two years as president. She successfully advocated human relations courses for teacher certification, programs for talented and gifted students, vocational education for all, and area schools. She was president of the National Association of State Boards of Education. From 1976 to 1986, she also focused her policy-making skills as board member and six-year president of the Iowa Public Broadcasting Board and was a driving force behind the new Iowa Public Television facility. She was a board member of the Agency for Instructional Television, which seeks to improve education by integration with technology, and she chairs the National Committee on Educational Integrity for Public Broadcasting. In 1984, Davidson was presented Drake University's Alumni Distinguished Service Award.

*"If I were to nominate one person, man or woman, as the most effective leader in the nation--not just in Iowa--my nomination would be Jolly Ann Davidson."*

*—Keith G. Briscoe, 1987*

## *Gwendolyn Fowler*

Gwendolyn Fowler of Des Moines, a pioneer woman of her time, has taken part in many of the great social changes of the nation and world and has opened doors of opportunity for minorities and women. She was the first African-American woman pharmacist licensed in Iowa, in 1930. Unable to find employment in her profession, she devoted 15 years to teaching school in Holly Springs, Mississippi. From 1945 to 1955, she was employed by the State of Iowa as a pharmacist's clerk and then as a chemist. As a presidential appointee in the U.S. Foreign Service, she was stationed in Vietnam for 4 1/2 years. In 1960, she resumed her career as a chemist in Des Moines, retiring in 1974. Fowler was a charter member of the Junior NAACP in (1920) and of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority (1932) and is a lifetime member of the NAACP. She has been a leader in such organizations as the American Red Cross, Willkie House, AAUW, and her church, and serves on the Mayor's Sister City Commission. Her collection of Oriental art is outstanding. She has received many citations and awards, including the Governor's Volunteer Award, and has been a role model for many women throughout her life.

*"We believe that Ms. Fowler has distinguished herself as an outstanding citizen of the United States, a woman of unique, special qualities and accomplishments, a Black American and most importantly, as an Iowan."*

*—Ronald N. Langston & Inga Bumbarly-Langston, 1987*



## *Lou Henry Hoover*

Lou Henry Hoover was born in Waterloo, Iowa in 1874. At the age of 10, she moved to California and in 1898 became the first woman to earn a geology degree from Stanford University. There, she met and married the future president of the United States; they and their family traveled and lived all over the world. Intelligent, talented, energetic, and public-spirited, she directed her efforts toward the benefit of others. During World War I, she established the American Women's Committee for Economic Relief to aid wounded soldiers and families. She organized food conservation drives and provided housing and assistance for women. She twice served with distinction as national president of the Girl Scouts of America. She organized the National Women's Athletic Association and a National Women's Conference on Law Enforcement. She enjoyed a lifelong love of the outdoors and a dedication to conservation. Since her death in 1944, awareness of the impact of her life has increased through the release of her papers and other written materials.

*"Lou Henry Hoover has impacted on many women's lives throughout our country and the world. We, as women of Iowa, would be remiss if we did not recognize the significant role she played during the early part of this century."*

—Diana Mayes, 1987

## *Nellie Verne Walker*

Nellie Verne Walker's sculptures can be viewed throughout the Midwest. Her life began in 1874 in Red Oak, Iowa where she learned stone carving at her father's monument works. At the age of 17, she created her first limestone sculpture, a bust of Lincoln, which was displayed at the 1893 Columbian Exposition and is now in the museum in Moulton, Iowa. She studied and taught at the Chicago Art Institute. In 1913, she completed the statue of Chief Keokuk that overlooks the Mississippi River in Keokuk, Iowa. On display in the Iowa State Capitol is a bas relief in bronze that she created in honor of the Pioneer Suffragists of Iowa; among those taking part in the 1936 formal dedication ceremony were Governor Clyde Herring, Secretary of State Ola Babcock Miller, and Carrie Chapman Catt. Walker's work has been characterized as "pure, strong, and for the most part classically beautiful." She has many monuments, busts and bas reliefs to her credit and was honored as a life member of the National Sculpture Society. This diminutive woman, known as "the lady who lived on ladders," died in 1973, leaving a legacy of art for all to enjoy.

*"As children, we knew of the unusual career of our aunt, Nellie Verne Walker, because our mother spoke often of Nellie's work in Chicago. We were in awe of this tiny lady, especially since no one else we knew had an aunt who was a sculptor."*

—Genevieve Lewis Szaton, 1985

### *A. Lillian Edmunds*

A. Lillian Edmunds, a pioneer in race relations, inspired young African-American people with vision and hope at a time when their opportunities for education and meaningful employment were almost nonexistent. Born in 1892, she experienced racial discrimination herself when, educated as a nurse and pharmacist, she was unable to find permanent employment in either profession. She directed the Negro Community Center in Des Moines, later named Willkie House, from 1922 until her death in 1955. Edmunds assisted in organizing the Iowa-Nebraska Federation of Settlement Houses. At Willkie House, Edmunds always had her door open. She encouraged adults and youth in goal-setting, and she developed neighborhood leadership by strengthening residents' self-esteem. To expand the well-baby clinic program, she secured a volunteer black doctor. Edmunds dedicated herself as a role model and second parent to many children. She served on the Iowa Commission on Children and Youth and was a delegate to the White House Conference on Children and Youth in 1950. A Des Moines elementary school was named in her honor in 1973. She was recognized posthumously by the Iowa Welfare Association for her valued contributions to welfare programs.

*"Lillian Edmunds  
was the Martin Luther King  
of the Des Moines area  
during the depression."  
—George W. Robinson, Jr., 1988*

### *Twila Parker Lummer*

Twila Parker Lummer developed a model program that paved the way for nearly 2,000 pregnant teenagers in Davenport, Iowa and countless others nationwide to attend high school. Lummer founded the Teenage Adolescent Pregnancy Program in the late 1960s, in which classes in prenatal care, consumer education, and infant nurturing were additions to the regular high school curriculum. She is a national advocate for the education of pregnant teenagers and young parents, becoming a charter member of the National Organization for Adolescent Pregnancy and Parenting in 1979. She served as NOAPP treasurer from 1982 to 1985. She added another needed educational service in Davenport by collaborating with a local psychiatrist in developing a hospital school for children and adolescents on the mental health unit of Mercy Hospital. Lummer, who has a master's degree in special education, began her career as home instruction teacher for the physically disabled. In 1986, Western Illinois University honored her as the first woman to receive the Arnold Salisbury Leadership Award. She also received the Governor's Volunteer Award for work with the Iowa Department of Health in adolescent pregnancy and parenting.

*"Twila Lummer has made a  
difference in generations of  
people—pregnant teens,  
adolescent mothers, their  
children and the parents of  
these young women."  
—Vada L. Babcock, 1987*

## *Marilyn O. Murphy*

Marilyn O. Murphy has opened doors for others and serves as a role model for many, often by being the first woman to serve in traditionally male groups. She is an outstanding community volunteer and leader in social services and human rights in the Sioux City area. Her ability to achieve worthwhile objectives by forming coalitions from disputing factions is remarkable. The extensiveness of her volunteer involvements is evidenced by the variety of areas in which she has been effective: crime prevention, day care, sexual assault and domestic violence, drug abuse, juvenile justice, rural concerns/family farms, and civil rights. Since 1973, she has been Social Concerns Facilitator for Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Sioux City. She was the first woman to serve as chairperson of the Council of Community Services and the Iowa Commission on Substance Abuse. She was also the first president of the Community Action Agency and chaired the Sioux City Human Rights Commission for three years. Murphy cofounded the Sioux City Chapter of the Women's Political Caucus. Among the many community service awards she has received are the Briar Cliff College Community Service Alumni Award, Kiwanis Club Community Service Award, and the Sioux City BPW Community Service Award.

*"Marilyn Murphy is a feisty little grey-haired grandmother in her early 60s who is quite capable of forming coalitions with warring factions if necessary to achieve a worthwhile goal."*

—Nancylee Ziese, 1983

## *Sister Patricia Clare Sullivan*

Sister Patricia Clare Sullivan, RSM, is known for her vision and leadership in providing accessible, quality care for all Iowans. As President of Mercy Health Center of Central Iowa and its eight subsidiaries, Sister Clare heads one of the largest corporations in the state. Her caring and compassion have been manifested in the many programs she has developed to serve needy populations in the Des Moines area—Clark Street House of Mercy, which assists single mothers to become independent; expansion of the health care delivery system to rural areas; a respite program for families caring for elderly persons in their homes; and Willis Care Center, an adult day care program. She serves on the board of directors of the Greater Des Moines Chamber Federation, First Interstate Bank, and the National Conference of Christians and Jews, and has traveled the state addressing issues of prejudice with the *Know your Neighbor* panel. Her service includes regional director and past president of Iowa Chapter of the American Academy of Medical Administrators. She received the Newcomer Award for Health Care Executive of the Year in 1984 and in 1985, the People of Vision Award from the Iowa Society for the Prevention of Blindness.

*"Thousands of Iowans have been touched by Sister Patricia Clare Sullivan's untiring commitment to providing readily accessible quality healthcare for all... Sister's leadership has impacted the health care of Iowans since 1955."*

—Ce Ce Zenti, 1987

## *Dr. Nancy Maria Hill*

Dr. Nancy Maria Hill, born in Boston in 1833, was one of the first women physicians in the United States. Dr. Hill began her career as a nurse during the Civil War, an experience that led her to pursue a degree in medicine. In 1874, she graduated from the University of Michigan Medical School and shortly after moved to Dubuque, Iowa, where she practiced medicine for 36 years. Dr. Hill was a tireless advocate for pregnant women and children. "I was never a mother but brought about 1000 children into this world," she once wrote. In the late 1800s, she organized the Women's Rescue Society of Dubuque, which later became the Hillcrest Deaconess Home and Baby Fold. Now known as Hillcrest Family Services, this institution has served tens of thousands of clients with vital social services. In her own words, Dr. Hill was "interested in all philanthropic works that come into a physician's life." She was also active in local, state, and national medical societies, often as the only woman participating and, in later years, was heartened to see more women entering her beloved profession. She died in 1919.

*"Dr. Hill was characterized by a great intellect, high ethics, and a generous, cheerful disposition. She delivered over 1,000 babies and felt great sympathy for unwed mothers and their babies."*

—Ann Straley, 1987

## *Georgia Anne Rogers Sievers*

Georgia Anne Rogers Sievers was presented the Governor's Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service to the State of Iowa in 1988. Her dedication and expertise in education, health and human services, transportation, and community development have notably improved the quality of life for Iowans. As an educational leader, Sievers served on the State Board of Public Instruction and Vocational Education at a time when area community colleges, state aid formula, and area education agencies were developed. With others, she helped to establish Iowa Public Television's Network, mindful of its potential for broadcasting college courses. She prompted the improvement of roads and bridges for school buses in southwest Iowa, and served on numerous committees to improve educational opportunities for women with disabilities, and others. Sievers has lobbied for progressive farm legislation, served as a hospital coordinator for health and school programs, served on the Board of directors of the Iowa West Racing Association, and emphasized equity for women in her activity with the Democratic Party and many other organizations. She has also shared in a family farm operation and parented five children.

*"Georgia has a philosophy of commitment—'keep farming strong to keep the economy strong; work hard in politics to facilitate good education and health programs; and work on appropriate Boards to see that these goals are met'... and Iowa is a better place because of it!"*

—Becky Nash, 1988

## *Ruth Wildman Swenson*

Ruth Wildman Swenson is an outstanding scientist, university administrator, and advocate for women in sciences and engineering. As an emeritus professor of botany and emeritus associate dean of Sciences and Humanities at Iowa State University, she has been an innovator of programs to encourage and support women in nontraditional careers. Swenson was the Iowa coordinator for a national program to help women move into academic administration and co-directed a National Science Foundation project to increase the number of women in science. She developed and implemented internships, career conferences, and intensive role model projects for high school girls and undergraduate women aiming for technical/scientific careers. Additionally, she helped to initiate annual conferences on women in higher education and is oft-cited as an inspiration for women in academia. She now serves as president of the Iowa Academy of Science, honored in part for her research in cell biology, biochemistry, and the ecology of blue-green algae ("nuisance blooms") on Iowa lakes and ponds. She is also a supporter of local music, art, and social services programs in her community.

*"She was in many ways a 'mentor,' facilitating the careers of other women wherever she could, making sure our accomplishments were noticed, that we were represented on committees, and offering support when it was needed."*

*—Marilyn D. Bachmann, 1988*

## *Cristine Swanson Wilson*

Cristine Swanson Wilson's innovative spirit and hard work made the Iowa Women's Hall of Fame a reality. Wilson served on temporary Governor's commissions on women that evolved into the Iowa Commission on the Status of Women in 1972, the first permanent state agency for women's concerns. As its first chair, Wilson fought for passage of anti-discriminatory laws in housing, credit, education, employment, and insurance; recognition of homemakers' contributions in inheritance tax determination; a model, progressive rape statute; provision for state funding and licensing of childcare centers; creation of a process by which more women could be appointed to state boards and commissions; and creation of the Iowa Women's Hall of Fame. As a women's movement pioneer, Wilson helped to found the Iowa Women's Political Caucus and served as the first woman chair of the Polk County Republican Platform committee. Her remarkable achievements have contributed to Iowa's recognition nationally as a state characterized by equality and justice. In 1982, the Commission established a Medal for Equality and Justice in her name, which is awarded to Iowans whose life and work illustrate such service and dedication.

*"For many young women in the '60s and '70s, it came with a sudden flash of knowledge that things were not as they should be. She saw it not so much for herself personally but in global terms and sought to change things for all of us."*

*—Roxanne Conlin, 1985*



## *Mary Jane Whitely Coggeshall*

Mary Jane Whitely Coggeshall, born in 1836, promoted woman suffrage for 41 years. Carrie Chapman Catt called her "The Mother of Woman Suffrage in Iowa" and "my greatest inspiration." In 1870, Coggeshall became a charter member of the Iowa Woman Suffrage Association and continued as its president in 1890 and 1891 and again from 1903 to 1905. Coggeshall was the first editor of the *Woman's Standard*, the monthly newspaper of the Iowa Woman Suffrage Association, and was a continuing contributor to that publication as well. She served as secretary of the Polk County Woman Suffrage Society during its early years. She often acted as spokeswoman for woman suffrage, addressing the Iowa House and Senate committees and innumerable woman suffrage meetings. Of the early Iowa woman suffrage workers, she was the only one active on the national level. She wrote articles for national newspapers and served on the Board of the National American Woman Suffrage Association beginning in 1885. Her longtime dedication to the woman suffrage cause in Iowa and the nation provided a strong source for continuity and inspiration to other women suffrage workers. She died in 1911.

*"Mary Jane Coggeshall's goal of women's suffrage has been attained, and another one of her hopes realized: '... that the next generation of women may find their work made easier because we have trodden the path before them.'"*

—Jean Lloyd-Jones, 1990

## *Merle Wilna Fleming*

Merle Wilna Fleming's career has focused on civil rights and education reform. She was appointed to the first Iowa Civil Rights Commission, serving as its chair from 1966 to 1968. Later, as Hearing Examiner for the Commission, Fleming heard the first sex discrimination case to reach public hearing. Volunteer work with the League of Women Voters helped guide Fleming toward her efforts at state education reform. A member of the local board of the League from 1950 to 1954 and 1963 to 1964, she served on the state board of the League from 1965 to 1966 and was its education chair. Fleming entered law school at the age of 50, graduating with distinction. As an assistant attorney general, she wrote opinions concerning education that include those relating to the use of school buildings by religious groups, the possible redistricting of Iowa schools every ten years, and teaching creationism in public schools. Following her early retirement, Fleming has assisted the Iowa School Board Association in preparing a manual to implement affirmative action requirements for Iowa's school districts.

*"To me, Merle is the epitome of the strong, talented, and dedicated human being whom we might construct as the ideal Iowa woman."*

—James A. Thomas, 1987

## *Betty Jean Furgerson*

Betty Jean Furgerson's life is epitomized as one of service and leadership, particularly in human rights, education, public television, and the arts. As director of the Waterloo Human Rights Commission since 1974, and in her volunteer capacities, she has been a strong and effective advocate for women and people of color. She is treasurer of the Regional Executive Council on Civil Rights, an organization comprising human rights agencies in a tri-state area. Her contributions to higher education include service on the Legislative Higher Education and Excellence in Education Task Forces, presidency of the Board of Directors of the Waterloo Community Schools, and membership on the Iowa Council on Vocational Education. She was one of the original members of the Iowa Department of Education's Multicultural, Nonsexist Curriculum Committee and aided in the formulation of the state policy that human relations training be a part of teacher preparation and relicensure. In 1989, Furgerson was appointed to the Iowa State Board of Regents. As president of the Iowa Public Broadcasting Board, she has directed policies for Iowa Public Television to assure quality alternative programming for Iowans.

*"Betty Jean ,  
for all her soft spoken,  
friendly demeanor, has a  
toughness of steel for  
causes she believes in."  
—Karen K. Goodenow, 1990*

## *Glenda Gates Riley*

Glenda Gates Riley, professor of history at the University of Northern Iowa since 1969, is an internationally known historian and an advocate for women. In 1972, she taught the first women's history course in Iowa. She later co-designed the first women's studies program in the state and served as Director of Women's Studies at UNI. Riley brought Iowa women to national attention through her book, *Frontierswomen: The Iowa Experience*, which received a Distinguished Achievement Award from the Iowa State Historical Society. She has served on the Iowa Historical Records Advisory Board, the Historical Advisory Board of Iowa, and the Board of Trustees of the Iowa State Historical Society. More recently, she held a Distinguished Fulbright appointment as Mary Ball Washington Professor of American History at University College, Dublin, where she taught the first women's history course in the Republic of Ireland. She has also twice held the Visiting Women's Chair in Humanistic Studies at Marquette University in Milwaukee. In 1988, she became the first woman to win a Distinguished Scholar Award at UNI.

*"Glenda has not merely  
worked diligently to uncover  
women's history sources  
previously overlooked... Her  
inspired writings and  
animated public speaking  
awaken a sense of new  
discoveries about Iowa  
women in her audiences."  
—Margo Dundon, 1985*

## *Mabel Lossing Jones*

Mabel Lossing Jones, born in 1878, spent 42 years as a teacher and administrator in India. A graduate of Upper Iowa University, she was appointed by the Methodist Episcopal Church mission schools to a girls school in Khandwa. Within a year she became its principal. A few years later, Jones was sent to Isabella Thobrun College, the first college for women in India. It was here that she met and married Dr. E. Stanley Jones, also a missionary. Her next move was to Sitapur where she became superintendent of six schools, including a boarding school for Christian boys. It was this school that became the focus of Jones's work in India and on into retirement. She was responsible for introducing women teachers into the school at a time in India when women were not considered qualified to teach boys; other schools throughout India followed her lead. She mastered the Hindi and Urdu languages and script. She served with 10 Hindu and ten Muslim males as the only non-Indian, Christian woman elected to the Sitapur administrative body, a position she held for nearly 20 years. For health reasons, Jones retired in 1945 but continued to seek scholarships for students to the Sitapur Boys Boarding School. At age 90, she was still raising enough funds to send 600 boys to school. She died in 1978.

*"Mabel Lossing Jones' influence upon her students has affected the global community. Due to her efforts, hundreds of children received an education, thus ultimately contributing to society in all walks of life."*

—Karilyn K. Bonomolo, 1991

## *Mary Louisa Duncan Putnam*

Mary Louisa Duncan Putnam's primary contribution was the work she did in the development of the Davenport Academy of Sciences. Born in 1832, she became involved with the Academy in 1868, was its first woman member, and later became its president. To make known the findings of the Academy's scientists and its growing collection of artifacts, she organized the Ladies Centennial Committee that raised money and published the first *Proceedings of the Academy*. These proceedings achieved worldwide circulation, and the accomplishment was called a "unique enterprise for men." Through her efforts, the first Academy of Science building was constructed. She also established natural history programs for children and adults at the Academy. Having borne eleven children, eight of whom survived to maturity, Putnam was highly committed to public education. In 1902, she was made a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the highest honor that organization bestowed on anyone at the time. When she died in 1903, Putnam left a trust for the continued publication and distribution of the *Proceedings*. Today, the Davenport Academy of Sciences serves the Quad-Cities community and the state of Iowa as the Putnam Museum of History and Natural Science.

*"Mary Louisa Duncan Putnam was indeed the guiding spirit behind the Davenport Academy and without her... the Quad Cities region would not know the benefits of an institution like the Putnam Museum of History and Natural Science."*

—Michael J. Smith, 1991



## *Marilyn E. Staples*

Marilyn E. Staples, born in 1926, has worked as a volunteer to improve the quality of life for Iowans. Her thorough research and unrelenting advocacy have focused on housing, human needs, government, education, and the land. She has often worked to support causes that were unpopular but which had far-reaching beneficial consequences. As president of the Des Moines Housing Council, she has developed such programs as homesteading, housing for low-income families, and a tool-lending library. She has served on the Polk-Des Moines Taxpayers Association Board, Grand View College Board of Trustees, Des Moines Planning and Zoning Commission, Polk County Land Use Advisory Committee, Greater Des Moines Chamber of Commerce Federation Board, and numerous other boards and committees. Staples has been president of the League of Women Voters of Metropolitan Des Moines and has chaired background studies on government, health services, human resources, natural resources, and housing issues. She co-drafted county charter legislation that was enacted in 1988 and helped to spearhead the successful drive to establish a Charter Commission in Polk County. This Commission, the first in Iowa, may well provide a model for other counties as it studies possibilities for restructuring county government and finance.

*"Marilyn Staples is the representative woman... She represents the women who have donated lives to volunteer activities. She represents the women who do so much... She represents the women who have made a difference in our lives..."*  
—Betty Grundberg, 1991

## *Lois Hattery Tiffany*

Lois Hattery Tiffany, in her professional career as a professor and administrator, has earned an impressive array of awards and honors for her teaching, advising, and service leadership at Iowa State University. Her field is mycology (the science of fungi), and her research publications (numbering over 60) and recognition at state and national levels attest to the excellence of her contributions. She cosponsors the Botany Club, one of the most active departmental organizations on the ISU campus. She has also served as a role model in ISU's Women in Science and Engineering pilot project, visiting junior and senior high school science classes and encouraging young women to study math and science and to consider careers in those fields. Known by the general public as the "Mushroom Lady," Tiffany shares her knowledge of fungi, including edible and non-edible mushrooms, with citizens of all ages and backgrounds. Tiffany has received a number of awards including the first recipient of the annual Mycological Society of America "W.H. Weston, Jr. Award" for Teaching Excellence in Mycology, Distinguished Iowa Scientist Award, Iowa Academy of Science; and the first recipient of the Governor's Medal for Science Teaching.

*"Lois is one of the most interesting and dedicated teachers I have known. Even the taxonomy (classification) of fungi—not usually considered captivating subject matter—comes alive with her enthusiasm."*  
—Ruth W. Swenson, 1990

## *Virginia Harper*

Virginia Harper, born in 1929, is an advocate for equality and justice for all Iowans. She became an activist at 11 years of age, when she led in desegregating the local theatre. In 1946, as a first-year student at the University of Iowa, she and four other African-American women integrated Currier Hall. As the first African-American woman on the State Board of Public Instruction, she effectively spearheaded the move for multicultural, nonsexist requirements in Iowa education. Her efforts aided in the adoption of the human relations requirement for teachers. Harper was also the first African-American woman appointed to the Iowa Board of Parole. A life member of the NAACP, Harper, working at the state and regional levels, has been president of the local branch from 1978 to the present. She has served on the Fort Madison Human Rights commission and the Library Board of Trustees, and has been a prison volunteer. She is a member of Amnesty International, League of Women Voters, the National Council of Negro Women, and the Iowa and American Corrections Association. She currently serves on the Fort Madison School District Human Equity Committee and is involved in a variety of activities that deal with equity and justice.

*"I can't think of anyone else who has done more in this century for promoting the educational opportunities of women and minorities in Iowa than Virginia Harper."*

—George F. Garcia, Ed.D., 1992

## *Helen Brown Henderson*

Helen Brown Henderson has spent much of her life as an advocate for the needs of mentally retarded persons. In the late 1940s, as the mother of a child born with special needs, she was faced with the reality that the avenues for assistance were limited. Through her questions and attempts to use the existing system, she developed an extensive network of supporters. In 1950, she began a campaign that developed 95 county chapters of the National Association for Retarded Children (ARC). In 1954, Henderson was elected the first president of the Black Hawk County chapter. She was also a founding member of the Iowa ARC, which sponsored the first three Special Olympics. From 1970 to 1978, she served as its executive director. She trained hundreds of Iowa parents in skills to advocate for community-based services to incorporate all citizens into community life. She also spent many hours volunteering her time to lobby the State Legislature on issues related to the education of children with disabilities. Henderson's vision eventually led to the development of the Area Education Agencies, designed as a resource to local school districts to enable them to provide K-12 education for disabled children in their home communities. She was the executive director of the Polk County Health Services from 1978 to 1983, where she continued her advocacy for mentally ill and substance abusing citizens of Polk County.

*"Helen Henderson, almost single-handedly, created, cajoled, communicated, shepherded, nurtured, and developed services for the mentally ill/retarded in Iowa — literally, bringing the services from the dark ages to their present status as among the most enviable in the nation."*

—Michael V. Reagen, 1992

## *Eve Schmoll Rubenstein*

Eve Schmoll Rubenstein, a pioneer in Iowa broadcasting, was born, raised, and educated in Fort Dodge. In 1930, she married Charles Rubenstein. When he died suddenly in 1953, she began her career in broadcasting at station KVFD-radio in Fort Dodge. The following year she was named to the national Board of American Women in Radio and Television (AWRT). In 1960, she helped to organize the Hawkeye Chapter of the AWRT and in 1969 was named manager of the KVFD-TV. In 1970, she was a delegate to the International Convention of American Women in Radio and Television in London, where she interviewed the Lord Mayor of London and later the Mayor of Berlin. In 1971, she won the prestigious New York Frany Award for First in Fashion Coverage. By 1972, she had been on the air for 19 years and logged more time on television than any woman in the nation. In 1988, she was named Fort Dodge's "Most Respected Citizen." Rubenstein has served on numerous boards and foundations, including the Catholic Daughters of America, the Webster County Board of Health, and the North Central Alcoholism Research Foundation. She was the first woman president of the Blanden Memorial Art Museum. She is also a permanent member of the lecture staff at the Substance Abuse Recovery Center of Trinity Regional Hospital and is also a lifetime honorary member of the Des Moines Advertising Club.

*"As a pioneer of the age of working women, Eve worked in a nontraditional field for women during the early days of TV... She is a legend of her own time."*  
—Dennis and Edwina O'Farrell, 1992

## *Mary Beaumont Welch*

Mary Beaumont Welch promoted the cause of women's education at Iowa State Agricultural College for over 15 years. Born in 1841 in Lyons, New York, she came to Ames in 1868 when her husband, Adonijah, was appointed the college's first president. In 1871, she initiated a course of lectures on housekeeping. She was an instructor of Domestic Economy, English, and Elocution from 1875 to 1893. After attending cooking schools in New York and London, she established the first of its kind experimental kitchen at ISU. She published an article in the July 1879 issue of *The College Quarterly*, expounding on the need to honor women's efforts in the home. "It is hard to give one's life to that which, according to general opinion, is an inferior pursuit." In 1882, Welch began to lecture throughout Iowa on home economics, a precedent for the extension courses that did not begin until 1903. In 1884, she published *Mrs. Welch's Cookbook*, the first book published in home economics at ISU. In 1888, Welch became president of the Iowa Women Suffrage Association. She proclaimed that women "...claim the absolute and inherent right to guard by vote all laws that affect in any manner the personal virtue of our sex. No man, or body of men, has the right to legislate away my control over myself..."

*"Mrs. Welch believed ardently in the power of women to make a constructive, creative difference in their world and she gave unstinting efforts in educating women to unleash that power."*  
—Dr. Beverly Crabtree & Dr. Jane Farrell-Beck, 1991

## *Julia Faltinson Anderson*

Julia Faltinson Anderson was born in Iowa in 1919. Her assistance to the international community includes serving the Navy during World War II, helping to train Peace Corps volunteers, serving as director of work camps in Austria, Yugoslavia, and Malawi. During the early part of Anderson's career, she served as an extension home economist, a 4-H youth leader, and later as associate dean for undergraduate programming at Iowa State University's College of Family and Consumer Sciences. Since her retirement, she has been active as a member of the United Way, Mary Greeley Medical Center, and the Iowa Division of the United Nations Association boards; a chair for the International Relations committee, Iowa division of AAUW; and the first woman on the Iowa Banking Board. She has also served on the Ames Fair Housing and Parks and Recreation Commission; she was a strong proponent of affordable housing. A member of the Board of Governors of the ISU Foundation, Anderson recently received the Helen LeBaron Hilton Recognition Award for her lifelong commitment to international affairs pursued through work with UNESCO, Partners of the Americas, and USAID. Currently, she is the cochair of a task force developing a College for Seniors at ISU that will offer noncredit courses for retirees living in central Iowa.

*"Julia Anderson is a natural leader and role model—enthusiastic, tactfully persistent, and contagiously good-humored. She continues to devote her energy in the lifetime commitment to improving the quality of life for girls and women in developing countries as well as here at home."*

*—Ruth Swenson, 1994*

## *Mamie Geneva Doud Eisenhower*

Mamie Geneva Doud Eisenhower was born in Boone, Iowa in 1896 and spent her early years in Cedar Rapids. At age six, she moved with her family to Colorado. In 1915, she met and later married Lieutenant Dwight D. Eisenhower. The Eisenhowers moved 35 times, living in a variety of army posts, including Panama, France, and the Philippines. Two sons were born to them. Mamie Eisenhower was a well-known and admired First Lady who served with her husband in the White House from 1953 to 1961. For over 25 years, she was listed on the Gallup Poll of the "Ten Most Admired Women in American." Her years in the White House were marked with dignity, grace, charm, and charitable works. After the Eisenhowers retired from public office, they returned to their farm in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. In 1970, Eisenhower received the "Nation's Foremost Heart Volunteer" award from the American Heart Association and was the first woman to receive the coveted Iowa Award. In 1971, President Nixon presented her with the "Military Wife of the Century" award at a Diamond Jubilee Dinner. Eisenhower died in 1979, 10 years after the former President. Eisenhower's birthplace in Boone was restored to its 1890s period and dedicated as a museum/library in 1980. It is open to the public from April through October and at other times by appointment.

*"Ike and Mamie were middle-class Americans to the core, right out of a Norman Rockwell painting."*

*—Bob Hope, 1980*

## *Phebe W. Sudlow*

Phebe W. Sudlow, born in New York in 1831, became a teacher at the early age of 15. In 1856, she moved with her family to Scott County, Iowa. By 1859, she had become the first woman public school principal in the United States, supervising both a grammar school and a district school in Davenport. In 1869, she became the first woman to present a program at the Iowa convention of county superintendents. In 1872, she was the first principal of the Davenport Training School for Teachers. Two years later, she became superintendent of public schools. In 1877, Sudlow was elected the first female president of the Iowa State Teachers' Association. A year later, she was appointed the first female professor at the University of Iowa (Department of English). Due to ill health, Sudlow retired from teaching in 1881 but continued to be active in her community. Among her later accomplishments were co-owning a bookstore, helping to establish a library in Davenport, and personally directing The Ladies Industrial Relief Society for 15 years. That organization assisted poor families and working mothers by providing a day nursery, washing machines, and cooking and sewing lessons. Sudlow died in 1922 at the age of 91.

*"Phebe Sudlow's legacy in our school district is an incentive, not only for our female students and those women who aspire to be administrators, but it also remains a source of motivation for everyone who wants to be a strong, effective administrator."*

—Dr. Peter F. Flynn, 1992

## *Jean Adeline Morgan Wanatee*

Jean Adeline Morgan Wanatee was born in 1910 on the Meskwaki Indian Settlement in Tama. She is a member of the peaceful Wolf Clan. As a child, she attended the Sac and Fox Day School in Tama, the Flandreau Indian School in South Dakota and then, in the 8th grade, returned to Iowa to attend Tama Public Schools. In her late teens, Wanatee worked two years at the Toledo Sanatorium and later at the Sac and Fox Day School. Wanatee and her husband raised seven children on the settlement. Over the years, she became a role model and advocate on the state and national level for the rights of women. She is a Meskwaki language specialist and resource for the Smithsonian Institute. Wanatee has served on the Governor's Advisory Committee and was a member of the Iowa Arts Council's "artist-in-the-schools" program. She also chaired the local Meskwaki School Board and was the first woman representative on the local pow-wow association. Nationally, Wanatee was the first woman elected to the Meskwaki Tribal Council, serving two four-year terms. When asked what she would like people to know about her, Wanatee replied, "Where I came from, I am proud that my people never left Iowa, never became prisoners. They are the reason I want to help."

*"Adeline Wanatee is a remarkable woman, a credit to the Mesquakie people and to her gender."*

—Mary Beth Schroeder Fracek,  
1993



## *Mildred Wirt Benson*

Mildred Wirt Benson, born in Ladora, Iowa in 1905, published her first story at the age of 12 and became the first woman to earn an M.A. in journalism from the University of Iowa in 1927. She has written more than 130 published books but is most noted as the first writer of the Nancy Drew series, carrying her independent spirit into the development of Nancy Drew as a strong female character and role model for three generations of women. She worked as a reporter for the *Toledo Times* from 1944 to 1975 and since then as a reporter/columnist for *The Blade*. A pilot as well, Benson was recognized in the 1947 edition of *Who's Who in Aviation, American Women* for her aviation columns for the *Blade*. She has been recognized with numerous writing awards and received the University of Iowa Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award in 1994. She is a member of the Iowa School of Journalism and Mass Communication Hall of Fame and the Ohio Women's Hall of Fame.

*"My hunch is that Mildred Wirt Benson, through her writings, has touched more people's lives, both in and beyond Iowa, than any other Iowa-born author."*  
—Kenneth Starck, 1993

## *Lois Harper Eichacker*

Lois Harper Eichacker was born in 1932 and is a fifth generation Iowan living in Fort Madison. She has spent her adult life advancing the causes of the disadvantaged, especially children and the working poor, by participating in the formation of public policies that affect them. Beginning her career at Southeast Iowa Community Action Organization in 1967, she served as executive director from 1974 to 1989. In the past, Eichacker has been president of the Region Seven Community Action Directors' Association, on the Iowa Humanities Board, on the Long Term Task Force, and Investing in People. Currently, she is a member of the Board of Directors of the Iowa Department of Economic Development, vice-chair 1991 to present; State Job Training Coordinating Council; Commission of Community Action Agencies, chairperson 1992 to present; Council on Human Investment; Iowa's Policymakers' Institute; NAACP; PIC; AAUW, and the University of Iowa Black Alumni Association. She has received many honors, including the Bob Tyson Outstanding Partner in Community Action Award, and the naming of the CAP Neighborhood Center in Fort Madison, the Eichacker Center. Eichacker is the president-elect of the 46,000-member U of I Alumni Association.

*"In this world there are givers and takers. Lois is definitely a giver, and she gives everything she has to every effort that she becomes involved with."*  
—James E. Smith, 1994



## *Gertrude Durden Rush*

Attorney Gertrude Durden Rush, born in Navasota, Texas in 1880, moved to Des Moines in 1907 to become the first African-American woman to be admitted to the Iowa Bar. She remained the sole African-American female to practice law in Iowa until the 1950s. Receiving her B.A. from Des Moines University in 1914, Rush began studying law under her husband, James B. Rush, a Des Moines attorney, passing the Iowa Bar Examination in 1918. In 1924, after denial of membership in the American Bar Association, Rush and four other African-American lawyers, who were men, created the National Bar Association, a minority bar association, which officially began in Des Moines in 1925. Rush was a member of the Illinois Bar, maintaining offices both in Des Moines and Chicago, residing in Des Moines. She also held positions in many nationally and community organizations, including president of the Iowa State Federation of Colored Women's Clubs and president of the Des Moines Colored Federated Clubs. She died in 1962. Two monuments in her honor are located at the Des Moines Public Library and St. Paul AME Church.

*"Mrs. Rush not only contributed to this nation and this world, but to her own local community, making life better for so many in her cry for justice..."*

*—Dr. Cleota Proctor Wilbekin,  
1994*

## *Evelyn Jobe Villines*

Evelyn Jobe Villines of Des Moines, born in Siam, Iowa in 1930, is a political activist and leading national spokesperson for person with disabilities. Villines had polio at the age three when she was living in southwest Iowa. From the time she was nine through 16 years of age, for the most part, she was a patient at crippled Children's Hospital in Iowa City, 250 miles away from home. As a teenager, Villines encountered her first job discrimination. Soon after, she began her life and career of empowering people who are disabled. Villines has served as Executive Secretary of the Iowa Governor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped from 1965 to 1975; Director of Development at Iowa Lutheran Hospital in Des Moines from 1975 to 1979; and Director of the Client Assistance Program for the Easter Seal Society of Iowa, Inc. from 1979 to 1991. Since 1980, Villines has been a free-lance motivational speaker, giving her speech "In the Name of Love" to hundreds of organizations worldwide. In 1986, she was inducted into the National Hall of Fame for Persons with Disabilities. In May of 1994, President Bill Clinton appointed Villines as a member of the committee for Purchase from People Who are Blind or Severely Disabled.

*"Evelyn Villines is truly an outstanding human being. As a speaker, she has the ability to capture an audience and leave them feeling moved to a greater understanding of joy and problems shared by persons with disabilities."*

*—Harlietta Helland, 1994*

## *Sue M. Wilson Brown*

Sue M. Wilson Brown was born in Staunton, Virginia in 1877. She graduated from Oskaloosa High School, and later moved to Des Moines. Brown dedicated her life to improving the status of African Americans on both a state and national level. To achieve that, Brown founded several clubs, including the Intellectual Improvement Club, Iowa Colored Women, and the Des Moines League of Colored Women Voters. She served as president of the Iowa Federation of Colored Women, the Colonel Charles Young Auxiliary of the American Red Cross, and the Des Moines branch of Church women's Interracial Commission, and as the first female president of the Des Moines Branch of the NAACP. She served as a charter member of the Central Association of Colored Women and the First Interracial Commission on Civil Rights. As chairperson of the Iowa Association of Colored Women, Brown supervised the building of the University Girls' Home in Iowa City, which became one of the first owned and operated university dormitories for African Americans outside any traditional African-American colleges or universities. She served as a delegate to the International Council of Women. Brown wrote three books about African-American women and is featured in *Who's Who in Colored America*. She died in 1941.

*"Sue M. Wilson Brown's life was a commitment to the foundational development of women leaders and the social, political, ethical, and economic upward mobility of African Americans... She was the great organizer of her day and we have yet to see her equal."*

—Gwendolyn Wilson Fowler, 1995

## *Mary E. Domingues Campos*

Mary E. Domingues Campos, born in McAlester, Oklahoma in 1929, is an advocate for women and children in Iowa and has helped to establish better relationships between people of diverse ethnic backgrounds. Campos serves on numerous boards and councils as a champion for human rights, including the Community Housing Education Resources, Bidwell Riverside Community Center, Des Moines Human Rights Commission, Hispanic Education Resource Center, Council for International Understanding, Mid-City Vision Committee, Our Lady of Guadalupe Chapel, Hispanic Ministry, Senior Citizens Advisory Council, Adult and Youth Ministries Diocese of Des Moines Advisory Council, and *The Des Moines Register* Advisory Council. She served as president of the United Mexican-American Community Center. Campos has also been active politically, serving as the Hispanic representative to the Iowa Democratic Party in 1983 and as the cochair of the Polk County Democratic County Convention in 1992. With the Hispanic population increasing in Iowa, Campos spends countless hours helping non-English speaking families who are relocating in Des Moines and Perry become more informed about social and health issues. As Randolph J. Davis says, "She has represented her Latino ethnic group with dignity and courage."

*"Mary has been a remarkable volunteer... Her undying interest in ensuring that all of the youth from the Hispanic community understand their culture and roots is evident in all of her volunteer activities and in all aspects of her life."*

—YWCA of Greater Des Moines, 1994

## *Gertrude Dieken*

Gertrude Dieken, born in Grundy County, Iowa in 1910, graduated with her B.A. from Coe College and following graduate studies in consumer economics and journalism at Iowa State University, launched her career as an editor and businesswoman. As an editor, Dieken garnered first the resources of the United States Department of Agriculture Extension Service in Ames, Iowa and then of the most influential farm magazine of the world, the *Farm Journal*. As a longtime editor of the family magazine within *Farm Journal*, she championed farm women as vital partners in farm production, as effective community leaders, and as intelligent and strong nurturers. The differences she made in the lives of farm families during an era of great change in agriculture reached far beyond her readers of the 1940s-70s, into the lives of the next generations. Dieken established the book publishing division of *Farm Journal, Inc.*, and within the first decade, over ten million books were distributed. During this period, she became vice president and a member of the board of directors of *Farm Journal, Inc.* She was the first woman recipient of the Reuben Brigham Award for outstanding service to agriculture and rural living through mass communication media. Dieken is listed in *Who's Who of American Women*.

*"Gertrude Dieken is a pioneering consumer economist, gifted journalist, and a woman who authentically and most successfully dedicated her life's work to advancing the status of women."*

*—Coe College President  
John E. Brown, 1995*

## *Rowena Edson Stevens*

Rowena Edson Stevens, born near Columbus, Wisconsin in 1852, graduated from Iowa State College in its second class. She taught school in Iowa and Nebraska. In 1876, she married John Stevens, a graduate of Iowa State College's first class. The family lived in Ames and later in Boone. Stevens became socially and politically active, founding and supporting charitable organizations, as well as playing a prominent role in the struggle for woman suffrage. She organized the Political Equality Club in Ames, serving as its president. She also served as president of the Boone Equality Club and organized chapters in other cities. Stevens was president of the Benevolent Society in Ames for 12 years, Worthy Matron of the Order of Eastern Star in Ames, state Regent of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and on the board of the first hospital in Boone. She held various offices in the Iowa Equal Suffrage Association, including president in 1894, in which capacity she addressed the Iowa Legislature on behalf of the suffragist movement. As president of the Boone Equality Club, Stevens organized the first woman suffrage parade in the United States for the annual convention of the Iowa Equal Suffrage Association in Boone in 1908. Stevens was honored by the League of Women Voters in 1931 as one of the 24 "women in Iowa whose courageous work opened the opportunities of complete citizenship to all women in the state." Stevens died in 1918.

*"She possessed an analytic mind that could dissect false argument and show up its inconsistencies. She saw, as if by intuition, where error had been given the semblance of truth and she knew how to hit it and hit it hard."*

*—Dean E. W. Stanton,  
The Alumnus, May 1918*

## *Joan Liffring-Zug Bourret*

Joan Liffring-Zug Bourret is a recognized Iowa photographer whose images are in many collections, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Her photographs include studies of the roles of men and women and ethnic groups, including Norwegians, Swedes, Czechs, Amish, Dutch, Mesquakie Indians, Hispanic workers, and the Amana people. She also documented the black civil rights movement in Cedar Rapids during the 1960s, which was instrumental in the election of one of the first African Americans, Cecil Reed, to the Iowa House of Representatives. Born in 1929 in Iowa City, Liffring-Zug Bourret attended the University of Iowa, then worked as a writer/photographer for the *Cedar Rapids Gazette*, 1948-51. In 1951 and 1952, she received national and international recognition for her photo documentary of the birth of her first son. *Look* magazine published the essay with *Life* using one photograph. She captured on film the variety and richness of Iowa life for *The Iowan* magazine from 1954 to 1985, and *The Des Moines Sunday Register* as a free-lancer from 1952 until 1969. She cofounded Penfield Press, publishing books of ethnic interest, in 1979, with her late husband John Zug, as well as authored several books about Grant Wood.

*"Her artistic talents and dedication to cultural documentation allowed her to create truly unique statements about life in this state."*

—Mary Bennett, 1996

## *Meridel Le Sueur*

Meridel Le Sueur, of St. Paul, Minnesota, was born in Murray, Iowa in 1900. She has spent her life recording women's lives and documenting the United States' cultural heritage through her fiction, poetry, history, journalism, autobiography, and biography. Her experiences and writings reflect the poor women in this century and the need for women to be linked to other generations of women. Le Sueur has written extensively about her grandmother, an Iowa pioneer and militant temperance worker, and her mother, an active feminist and a socialist. Rural and ethnic life in the Midwest, the land, and corn are other common themes. During the McCarthy era in the 1950s, she was blacklisted, resulting in being unable to publish her works for nearly 30 years. Since 1970, her works have found a new audience and new popularity.

*"...Meridel Le Sueur's special gift is telling the story of women—as she lived it, as other women lived it, and as she imagined it might be."*

—Marianne Abel, 1989

## *Janette Stevenson Murray*

Janette Stevenson Murray was a Cedar Rapids civic leader, an early suffragist, educator, lecturer, and writer. Among her accomplishments were fighting for women's right to vote, helping to establish the Child Welfare Station at the University of Iowa, and serving as president of the Cedar Rapids Board of Education from 1923-24 at a time when few women in the country held that responsibility. She wrote feature articles for women entitled "The Modern Mother in Home, School, and Community," which appeared each week in *The Evening Gazette* as well as delivered radiant talks on child training. As the state Parent Teacher Association chairperson of parent education, she organized study groups, out of which came three 64-page booklets that sold nationally. She co-wrote *The Story of Cedar Rapids* with her husband, Frederick G. Murray, M.D., published a history of her Tama birthplace, *They Came To North Tama*, and later went on to produce two more books on Tama County with her daughter. Among her awards are the national Brotherhood Award from the National Conference of Christians and Jews, 1947 American Mother of the Year from the American Mothers' Association and the Golden Rule Foundation, and the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters from her alma mater, Coe College. Murray was born in 1874 and died in 1967.

*"Her contributions have been notable and worthy of highest recommendation on a number of scores... [she] has made a significant impact in role choice for women, in the suffrage movement, in media development, in education, and as a national newsmaker."*

—Carol Zeigler, 1995

## *Mary E. Wood*

Mary E. Wood, Des Moines, born in 1902, was the only African American to graduate from East High in Des Moines in 1920 and from Drake University in 1924. She received her M.A. degree at New York University and is a certified social worker. Active all her life in the YWCA, Wood has served as branch youth program director for the YWCA in Tulsa, Oklahoma; branch youth and camp director in Denver, Colorado; branch executive director, Newark; and branch executive director, Southwest Belmont, Philadelphia. In 1956, Wood became the first African-American woman in the United States to be named executive director of a metropolitan YWCA—Buffalo and Erie County, New York—and later went on to serve as metropolitan executive director of Greater Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She has also served on numerous committees, social agencies, churches, and women's organizations, including the New York State Board of Education. Among her honors are Woman of the Year, Zeta Phi Beta; Alumni Distinguished Service Award, Drake University; listed in "Who's Who Among Women of the World;" and September 4 designated Mary E. Wood Day in Pittsburgh.

*"As an outstanding dedicated black woman, she has maintained and promoted high principles in spite of repeated racial rejections, making a difference in this community and in the nation."*

—Lois Eichacker, 1996



## Charlotte Hughes Bruner

Charlotte Hughes Bruner of Ames, born in 1917, is recognized as one of the pioneer scholars and editors in the field of writing by African women. She has had an impact in the field by bringing voices of known and unknown women from several continents to the rest of the world. Bruner has edited two collections of short stories by African women writers, published by Heinemann Press and distributed around the world: *Unwinding Threads* and *African Women's Writings*. A foreign language professor at Iowa State University for 33 years, Bruner has helped thousands of students get to know about the lives and experiences of women and men in other cultures. During the 1970s and 1980s, she codirected and cohosted, with her husband David, a series of 170 radio programs on WOI entitled *First Person Feminine*, that provided commentary and readings of short stories by and about women internationally. She has served as vice president of the African Literature Association and as African editor for *The Feminist Companion to Literature in English*. In addition to her feminist scholarship, Bruner has been an activist for peace, justice, and human rights issues.

"Charlotte Bruner [is] one of the most outstanding pioneers in the field of African and Women's Studies, as well as in Literature and Culture where her innovative and visionary approach has opened new avenues."

—Evelyne Accad, 1997

## Margaret "Peg" Mullen

Margaret "Peg" Mullen of Brownsville, Texas has been a national anti-war figure, holding the government and its military accountable for the thousands of personal and family tragedies of the Vietnam War, and war in general. Mullen, born in 1917 and a former Black Hawk County farmer, had always been politically active. Yet when her son, Michael Mullen, 25, died in American artillery fire that was misdirected during the Vietnam War, her life's work was solidified. She and her husband, Gene, placed a half-page anti-war advertisement in *The Des Moines Register* on April 12, 1970 containing 714 crosses, representing the number of Iowans who had died in the war up to that time, with the words: "A SILENT message to fathers and mothers of Iowa: We have been dying for nine, long, miserable years in Vietnam in an undeclared war... How many more lives do you wish to sacrifice because of your SILENCE?" In the face of much adversity, she looked into the circumstances of her son's death and confronted the government on its policies. C.D.B. Bryan wrote the book *Friendly Fire* about Mullen's story, which was turned into a widely publicized TV movie. Mullen wrote her own version of the story in *Unfriendly Fire: A Mother's Memoir*, published in 1995.

"Her outrage... challenged conventional Midwestern mores and, as often as not, alienated friends, family, the citizens of Iowa and a war-torn nation. She exposed the self-righteous and aloof among the nation's leaders."

—Michael Scott, 1997



## *Annie Nowlin Savery*

Annie Nowlin Savery, a Des Moines resident born in London, England in 1831, was a pioneer suffragist and a leader in the women's movement in Iowa during the late 1860s and 1870s. In 1868 she became the first Des Moines woman to lecture on woman suffrage, braving an audience unfriendly to the subject. In 1870, she attended the organizational meeting of the Iowa Woman Suffrage Society in Mt. Pleasant and was elected corresponding secretary. That same year she helped organize the first woman suffrage society in Des Moines. Savery soon emerged as the leading spokesperson for the suffrage movement in Iowa, lecturing statewide. In 1871, when suffragists were under attack nationally because of the association of free love advocate Victoria Woodhull with their movement, Savery defended the right of any person to join the suffrage ranks regardless of her/his personal morals. Because of this stand, Savery was ousted from the Iowa suffrage movement. She continued, nonetheless, to seek ways to better women's economic and educational opportunities, including endowing scholarships for women at Grinnell College and establishing a beekeeping business as an example of how women could earn money. In 1875, she was one of two women to graduate from The University of Iowa Law School. Savery died in 1891.

*"Annie Savery is the most admirable woman I have found in my research on Iowa feminists..."*

—Louise R. Noun,  
*The Des Moines Register*, 1996

## *Beulah Webb*

Beulah Webb of Sioux City, born in 1895, is a community service leader. In 1927, she organized the Sioux City Association of Colored Women to promote culture, education, literature, and art and to alleviate racial problems. She was selected to attend the National Federation of Colored Women's Clubs Convention in 1938. Recognizing the critical need for housing in the community, Webb worked to assist people, some with cardboard and tar houses, obtain better housing by helping found the Rehabilitation Program for Elderly Homeowners and serving on the Siouxland Interstate Metropolitan Planning Council's Citizen Housing Committee. Webb is also considered the pioneer and moving force behind many senior citizen programs in the Sioux City area. She cofounded the Downtown Senior Citizens Center and served as its director from 1971-77. She was also founder of the Sanford Community Center, and member of the Woodbury County Task Force on Aging and the Advisory Committee on Aging. Webb's service extends to the Red Cross, Woodbury County Social Services, Girl Scouts of America, and the Mary Tregilia Community House.

*"In her own quiet, unassuming yet forceful way Mrs. Webb has been an effective, positive role model for at least six decades in Sioux City"*

—Richard E. Hayes, 1997

## *Bess Streeter Aldrich*

Bess Streeter Aldrich, born in Cedar Falls in 1881, gained national and international fame as an author of the Midwest experience, including strong female characters. After receiving her degree from Iowa State Normal School (now University of Northern Iowa), she taught school for five years in various Iowa communities before moving to Elmwood, Nebraska, where she spent the rest of her professional career. Her short stories appeared in many popular magazines, including *Ladies Home Journal*, *American Magazine*, *Good Housekeeping*, *McCall's*, and *Cosmopolitan*. Between 1924-42, she wrote nine novels including *A Lantern in Her Hand* and *Miss Bishop*, on which the movie *Cheers for Miss Bishop* was based. Aldrich draws upon her Iowa roots in *Song of Years*--the story of the founding of her home town, Cedar Falls. In 1949 the Iowa Library Association presented her with the Johnson Brigham Award that read, "To the Iowa author for the most outstanding contribution to literature." She died in 1954.

*"Bess Streeter Aldrich brought a masterful realism and a determined optimism to short stories and novels about Midwestern families both contemporary and pioneer."*  
—Cedar Falls Historical Society, 1997

## *Janice Ann Beran*

Janice Ann Beran of Ames, emerita professor of health and human performance, is a leading educator who advocates for international understanding and equal opportunities for all. During the 18 years she served on the Iowa State University faculty, Beran was a master teacher who brought topics to life through dramatizations, reenactment of historical events, and classroom conference calls with leaders in the field. Beran is widely recognized for her work in women's sports and physical education and has written a book on the history of Iowa girls' basketball. Her extensive cross-cultural interests led to international teaching as a missionary educator in the Philippines for 13 years and as a visiting professor/lecturer in Japan, China, Taiwan, and Nigeria. In 1984, she served as the United States delegate to the Olympic Academy in Greece. Beran is also a community and church leader, having served as president of the League of Women Voters of Ames; the League of Women Voters of Iowa; Iowa-Yucatan Partners of the Americans; and the Iowa Association for Physical Education, Health, Recreation and Dance; and as Synod Moderator in the Presbyterian Church. Beran and her husband have three adult children and six grandchildren, and have served as foster parents to 42 troubled and disadvantaged teens.

*"Jan is... a great ambassador for the state of Iowa and those causes she believes in. She has brought honor to her family, profession, [Iowa State] University, the state, and to women."*  
—Barbara E. Forker, 1998

## *Lynn Germain Cutler*

Lynn Germain Cutler of Washington, D.C. is a nationwide leader in politics, promoting the causes of women and children as well as encouraging women to become involved in politics. Born in Illinois in 1938 and longtime Waterloo resident, Cutler got her start in advocating for those causes as a teacher in Cedar Falls. Soon thereafter, she became involved in Iowa politics by becoming the first woman to chair the Black Hawk County Board of Supervisors and, in 1980 and 1982, she ran as the Democratic nominee for the United States Congress from her district. She has held several political appointments, including 12 years as the vice chair of the National Democratic Party, vice chair of the U.S. Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, and U.S. delegate to the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women. She is involved in the National Women's Political Caucus, EMILY's List, and the International Women's Forum. Cutler has also been active in the Jewish community. Currently she serves in the White House as deputy assistant to the President for Intergovernmental Affairs, where her duties are as White House liaison to countries, cities, tribal governments, and women-elected officials.

*"The example Ms. Cutler gives to young women—being a leader, an advocate for others, a public servant, a nationally recognized political commentator, a mother—is an inspiration to all..."*  
—Senator Tom Harkin, 1998

## *Maude Esther White*

Maude Esther White, born in 1913 as one of nine children to Reverend and Mrs. G.W. White of Perry, Iowa, has devoted her life to assisting disadvantaged persons in education, employment, housing, and business. She attended the University of California at Berkeley and holds B.A. and M.A. degrees from Drake University, and an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Grand View College, which established the Maude Esther White Endowed Scholarship in 1995. After holding a number of teaching and government positions in California, she came to Iowa where she was the first affirmative action administrator for the State of Iowa. In 1980, she founded and directed, until 1991, the Des Moines Tutoring Center, a nonprofit organization that strives to encourage young people to reach their potential through education. She has served on the Iowa Commission on the Status of African-Americans, and the boards of Good Samaritan Urban Ministries, San Francisco LINKS, YWCA, American Association of University Women, and Girl Scouts of America. She is past board member and president of the Des Moines Branch of the NAACP.

*"She is a motivating force in the Des Moines community and has been a pioneer in civil rights and in the empowerment of children."*

—Monroe Colston and  
Frances Colston

## *Professor Mary Jaylene Berg*

Professor Mary Jaylene Berg of Iowa City is a worldwide leader in fostering the role of women in pharmacy and in the improvement of women's health. In 1995, she became the first female promoted to professor in the College of Pharmacy at The University of Iowa since its founding in 1885. Berg has led international efforts to bring together women pharmacists in order to assure the inclusion of gender-related health issues in pharmacy curricula. Nationally, she has served as a charter member on the advisory committee that reviews the research strategy of the National Institutes of Health's Office of Research on Women's Health and presently serves on the board of directors of the Society for the Advancement of Women's Health Research. Berg's own research involves women with epilepsy who want to have a family. The multidisciplinary research team that she coordinates studies the potential for epileptic women to safely use folic acid-containing multivitamins to reduce the risk of adverse birth outcomes while they are taking anti-folate drugs to control seizures. Berg is the coeditor of four books, *International Leadership Symposium: The Role of Women in Pharmacy* (1990), *Women - A Force in Pharmacy* (1992), *Gender-Related Health Issues: An International Perspective* (1996), and *Global Visions of Women Pharmacists* (1998), and the author of 50 journal articles--almost all of which relate to women's health. In 1992, she served as a Delegate to the 45th World Health Assembly in Geneva, Switzerland. A graduate of North Dakota State University and the University of Kentucky and a post-doctoral fellow at the State University of New York at Buffalo, Berg has been included in *Who's Who in America*, *Who's Who of American Women*, *The World Who's Who of Women*, *Who's Who in the World*, *Who's Who in the Midwest*, and *Who's Who in Science and Engineering*. Berg was born in 1950 in Fargo, North Dakota.

*"Dr. Mary Berg is the acknowledged leader in fostering the important role of women in pharmacy."  
—Dr. Adrienne Bendich, 1997*

## *Rosa Maria Escudé de Findlay*

Rosa Maria Escudé de Findlay of Cedar Falls has been serving the Latino population of Iowa and working to advance the understanding of and appreciation for Latino/Hispanic culture throughout the state for 35 years. After moving to Iowa in 1964, de Findlay established networks, programs, and contacts to assist the Latino/Hispanic population in becoming U.S. citizens and in understanding U.S. culture, often times serving as a mentor to immigrants to the U.S. In 1997, de Findlay served as an observer for three days when 156 workers were detained by the Immigration and Naturalization Services (INS) in Newton. While recognizing the authority of the law, de Findlay never forgot the human emotions and struggles of those who were detained, and she performed the role of translator and ombudsperson for many Latino/Hispanic immigrants. She ensured that they understood their rights, their lawyers, and their judge and had adequate facilities. In addition to her efforts in easing the pain of deportation, de Findlay volunteers up to nine hours per time of service as an interpreter for Black Hawk County hospitals, police headquarters, and various agencies. She also gives educational presentations, workshops, and programs about the Latino/Hispanic culture and has served on the Lt. Governor's Diversity Committee. She serves on the Cedar Falls Human Rights Commission and is a member of the Dubuque Archdiocese Board of Education. De Findlay has served as a Spanish teacher, at all grade levels, for the University of Northern Iowa at Price Laboratory School for 35 years. Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico in 1936, de Findlay raised two children, who are following in her footsteps as community volunteers.

*"Mrs. de Findlay's service to the Latino/Hispanic population of Iowa represents her altruistic willingness to assist others in a variety of capacities. She goes where the need is no matter how difficult the situation or demands on her time."  
—Dr. Victoria L. Robinson, 1997*

## *Helen Navran Stein*

Helen Navran Stein of Des Moines pioneered the *Know Your Neighbor Panel*, which is credited with breaking down racial, religious, and social prejudices at a critical time in American history. In 1960, when Iowa and the nation were experiencing tremendous turmoil in race relations, Stein organized a panel of six Des Moines women of varying races, cultures, and religious beliefs to travel statewide to open communication for better human relations. The panelists told their personal narratives as members of different racial and ethnic groups, promoting understanding through knowledge. The panel made appearances throughout the country, achieving both statewide and national prominence. From 1960 to 1972, the *Know Your Neighbor Panel* appeared before thousands, many of whose attitudes were touched and changed by the panel's message. In 1955, Stein originated a service for blind students in the state of Iowa, making it possible for those students to have their textbooks recorded. Stein's community service also includes serving as a crisis line counselor and as a certified Brailist. At the present time, she is a Court-Appointed Special Advocate for children who are victims of abuse and neglect. She is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin. Born in Kansas City, Missouri in 1923, Stein and her husband, Arthur, have two sons, Jay, Iowa City, and Art, Washington, D.C.

*"Stein was motivated by a concern for individuals of all races, religions, and cultural groups. She felt challenged by a strong belief that if we allowed ourselves to get to know one another, some preconceived notions and prejudices would fade away."*

—Arlene J. Morris, 1997

## *Elaine Eisfelder Szymoniak*

Elaine Eisfelder Szymoniak of Des Moines was born in Boscobel, Wisconsin in 1920. Her parents were deaf and an older brother had cerebral palsy. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin with a B.S. degree and a major in Education and Speech Pathology. Before becoming an Iowa resident she worked in public schools in Wisconsin, New York, and Kansas and at Army Hospital Aural Rehabilitation Center in Oklahoma and the Wisconsin General Hospital and Medical School. In Iowa, she devoted almost 30 years to assisting persons with disabilities through the state Vocational Rehabilitation Agency. During this period, Szymoniak obtained an M.S. degree at Iowa State University. From 1978-89, she was a member of the Des Moines City Council and worked to meet the needs of her constituents with a special emphasis in economic development, equality and justice. From 1989 to the present she has served as an Iowa State Senator where she has been recognized as a leader in Health and Human Services. She has served in leadership positions in many legislative committees. She has also served on numerous committees of the National Conference of State Legislatures and made presentations to annual meetings on ethics, welfare reform, and child protection. Szymoniak has been an active participant in many professional and civil boards, commissions, and foundations. In 1943, she married Casimir Szymoniak; together they raised five children and have five grandchildren.

*"She is a woman who has done it all — she has been a wonderful, successful mother; has had a career; has been a dedicated volunteer and public servant; and has been a mentor and a role model. She is a woman who has truly made a difference."*

—Connie Wimer, 1991



## *Betty Jean "Beje" Walker Clark*

Betty Jean "Beje" Walker Clark of Rockwell, born in 1920, has made public service her life's work. Long involved with social justice work in the United Methodist Church, Clark has been a leader in her local congregation, Iowa Conference and United Methodist Women. Perhaps best known as a legislator, Clark served 14 years in the House of Representatives where she worked primarily on issues of human services and criminal and juvenile justice. Clark was appointed in 1990 to the Advisory Council of the Iowa Division of Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning where she was instrumental in the planning and development of alternatives to prison. A halfway house in Mason City named the Beje Clark Residential Center opened in 1992. In 1993 she initiated a program through the Iowa Conference of the United Methodist Church that broadened into a non-profit organization, Restorative Justice Advocacy, Inc. Clark travels extensively throughout Iowa to help introduce the principles of restorative justice and works on a national scale with the newly created Restorative Justice Ministries. In addition to authoring numerous articles and co-authoring a book, *Nearer to Thee*, Clark is a skilled editor, broadcaster, and public speaker.

*"Every single day, she makes at least one telephone call with the sole purpose of improving the condition of one someone in this state. "*

*—Karon Perlowski, 2000*

## *Denise O'Brien*

Denise O'Brien is a self-employed farmer from Atlantic who uses organic practices. She founded and is coordinator for Women, Food, and Agriculture Network, an organization dedicated to the empowerment of farm and rural women whose mission statement is "to link and amplify women's voices on issues of food systems, sustainable communities and environmental integrity." Through her work as a past president of the National Family Farm Coalition, she lifted the concerns of farm families and rural communities on international, national, state, regional, and local levels. In 1997, she spoke before the United Nations General Assembly on behalf of the world's farmers. Her efforts have aided the establishment of many organizations, including Rural Advocacy 2000, Iowa Fair Trade Watch, the Women's Task Force of the Iowa Farm Unity Coalition, and Progressive Prairie Alliance. She served on the Governor's Farm Emergency Task Force for the past year. O'Brien continues to serve on the Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Local Food Task Force. An extensive lecturer, O'Brien has shared her expertise in rural development and farming with thousands throughout the United States and world. She and her family have been regular hosts to international delegations. She was the 1997 recipient of the "Gloria Steinem Award" and the Iowa Farmers Union "Young Leadership Award" in 1990. O'Brien was born in 1949.

*"Denise O'Brien has emphasized her Iowa roots as a woman farmer for 21 years, the commonalities she shares with women around the globe, and the need to develop a close relationship with our planet Earth."*

*—Dorothy M. Paul, 1998*



## *Adeline Morrison Swain*

Adeline Morrison Swain was born in Bath, New Hampshire in 1820. After moving to Fort Dodge following her marriage in 1846, she recognized the lack of cultural opportunities for young women and organized French, English, music, botany, and art classes and a children's lyceum. In 1869, she organized the first woman's suffrage meeting in Fort Dodge. During the 1870s she traveled the state, often speaking and accompanying nationally recognized women's rights leaders such as Susan B. Anthony and Amelia Jenks Bloomer. She was active in the National Women's Congress and National Woman's Suffrage Association, which elected Swain vice-president for life. She was a regular contributor to the *Women's Tribune*. Swain also had expertise in history, theology, and natural sciences. She was a correspondent of the Entomological Commission of the United States Department of Agriculture to study the Colorado grasshopper, which was devastating agriculture in western Iowa during the 1870s. Swain's accomplishments in the field earned her membership in the American Association for the Advancement of the Sciences and she was one of the first women to prepare and read a paper before that body's national convention. She was active in the Greenback Party because of its support of equal political and legal rights for women and monetary reforms, and was the first woman to run for state office in Iowa. She was a leader in the temperance movement, and as a spiritualist, she advocated equal opportunity for women as religious leaders. Swain died in 1899.

*"A renaissance woman with a variety of interests, she was recognized nationally for her contributions to scientific knowledge and her efforts for women's rights and statewide for her artistic talents and religious contributions."*

—Roger B. Natte, 2000

## *Margaret Boeye Swanson*

Margaret Boeye Swanson has been called Des Moines' best known and most beloved volunteer by *The Business Record*, a Des Moines newspaper. Since moving to Des Moines in 1949, she has been a tireless community supporter, volunteer, and philanthropist. She has given golden anniversary years of service to both the Red Cross and Girl Scouts, silver anniversary years of service to Iowa Lutheran Hospital, and thousands of hours to over twenty local, regional, and national organizations. Swanson has been recognized by numerous organizations including the YWCA, Iowa Lutheran Hospital, National Conference for Community and Justice, East Des Moines Chamber of Commerce, National Tri-Delta Sorority, Sertoma Club, and Red Cross. Swanson has also received a Doctor of Laws degree from Grand View College. A lodge at the Girl Scouts' camp in Boone bears her name. She was instrumental in creating the Botanical Center, the first woman in Iowa to serve on a draft board, a founding member of Union Park Neighborhood Association, and active with the League of Women Voters and American Association of University Women. Swanson was born in Webster City in 1919.

*"Margaret is a great example of the impact volunteers can make and the benefits to be gained through volunteerism."*

—Carolyn Scholl, 1990

## *Dr. Ursula Delworth*

Dr. Ursula Delworth's lifelong commitment to her profession has positively influenced the field of psychology as well as the status of women. Gender differences in education was a focus in her career long before the institutionalization of "Women's Studies." A counseling psychologist by training, Delworth joined the faculty at the University of Iowa in 1976 as the first woman hired with tenure status. She was an expert in the field of women in psychology and multicultural issues and chaired the Affirmative Action Subcommittee of the University of Iowa Council on the Status of Women. Delworth's contributions to academia were extensive. She served as departmental chair as well as associate dean of the College of Education. She was published regularly in prestigious journals and volunteered tirelessly for professional organizations and university committees. She was often sought after as a panel presenter, organizational consultant, and task force member. She was dedicated to helping the system of education become more inclusive in scope. In recognition of her efforts she has received many professional honors. In addition to her work with the University of Iowa, Delworth's dedication extended to the Iowa City community evidenced by her involvement with the Johnson County Humane Society and Altrusa Club of Iowa City. Delworth was born October 22, 1934 and died May 24, 2000.

*"An outstanding  
academician with a  
dedication and commitment  
to students that goes above  
and beyond..."*  
—Dr. Luis A. Vazquez, 2000

## *Lt. Colonel (Retired) Phyllis L. Propp Fowle*

Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) Phyllis L. Propp Fowle was the first to open the door for women lawyers to serve their country as soldiers and attorneys. Fowle was born in Jasper County, Iowa, and was educated in the Marshalltown Schools. She obtained her law degree from the University of Iowa Law School in 1933 – the only woman in her graduating class. During the United States' engagement in World War II, Fowle, along with ten other women, was chosen to the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps leadership to start the Corps. She was detailed to the Judge Advocate General's Corps (JAG) and became the first woman Judge Advocate General officer in the United States Army on May 4, 1944. She immediately asked to attend the JAG's School, but was denied as the school, housed at the University of Michigan, did not accept women. She was assigned as the Staff Judge Advocate at Ft. Des Moines, which is the highest legal position an attorney can hold at an Army post. She later was sent to Europe and was the only woman Judge Advocate to serve overseas during World War II. At the end of World War II after all women were discharged from service, she was invited to stay in the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate as a civilian attorney acting as the Chief of Legal Assistance. After returning to the United States, Fowle served as Judge Advocate in the United States Army Reserves. She was born May 8, 1908 and died June 22, 2000.

*"Phyllis was a role model  
and an inspiration to young  
women serving their  
country."*  
—Bettie J. Morden, 2000

## *Phyllis Josephine Hughes*

Phyllis Josephine Hughes, of Manchester, was born knowing she would be an attorney. The day after she received her doctorate from Marquette University Law School, she began practicing law in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Her law career took her to New York, Washington D.C. and Europe. She was the first woman executive with the Curtis Wright Corporation, who offered her employment not knowing she was a woman. Hughes returned to Iowa in 1950 after the death of her mother to assist her father as co-owner of the E. M. Hughes Store, continuing her legal work at night. Since 1983, Hughes has volunteered her time helping distressed farmers with their legal needs. Pope John Paul II honored Hughes for her devoted service to farmers. She is a 75-year member of the Democratic Party; and in the last 50 years, she has not missed a county, district, or state Democratic Convention. She is a long time member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, National Council of Catholic Women, Catholic Daughters of America, and the Manchester Chamber of Commerce. Hughes designed and presented the "Tribute to Iowa Women: Past, Present, and Future" bronze medallion as a gift from the women of Iowa during Iowa's sesquicentennial, which is displayed in the Governor's Conference Room at the State Capitol. She has just completed her first novel, *Thirty-six Inches Makes a Yard*. Hughes was born in The Dalles, Oregon in 1912.

*"The majority of her daily hours are spent in helping others."*

—Rita Engelken, 2001

## *Ann Dearing Holtgren Pellegreno*

Ann Dearing Holtgren Pellegreno has been a professional musician, teacher, author, lecturer, and farmer. In 1960, on the day she obtained her private pilot's license, she took her mother up for a flight as her first passenger, a surprise because Mrs. Holtgren was not aware that her daughter had learned to fly. Within five years, Pellegreno obtained a commercial pilot's license to which she added ratings for instrument, multi-engine, and flight instructor for airplanes and instruments. On June 9, 1967, she and a crew of three took off from Oakland, California, in a twin-engine Lockheed 10, a sistership to that flown by Amelia Earhart on her fateful world flight in 1937. Exactly thirty years later Pellegreno found Earhart's flight-planned destination – tiny Howland Island – dropped a wreath, and returned to Oakland on July 7<sup>th</sup>, completing the 28,000-mile commemorative flight. In 1974 Pellegreno was appointed to the Aeronautics Commission, the first woman thus serving in Iowa, and also to the Iowa Department of Transportation Commission, the first woman in the nation to serve in that capacity. Pellegreno was inducted into the Iowa Aviation Hall of Fame (1990), the Michigan Aviation Hall of Fame (1991), and the Experimental Aircraft Association – Vintage Aircraft Association Hall of Fame (1997). Her first book, *World Flight, the Earhart Trail*, was published in 1971. The first two volumes of her trilogy *Iowa Takes to the Air* were published in 1980 and 1986. She was born in Chicago, Illinois.

*"She has never pursued riches or fame, only seemingly impossible goals. Very lofty and difficult ones."*

—Patricia Bliss, 2001

## *Bonnie Campbell*

Bonnie Campbell of Washington D.C. is a staunch supporter of women's freedom from violence. Born in Norwich, New York in 1948, Campbell grew up in a modest family of dairy farmers and was the first person in her family to graduate from high school. While listening to a campaign speech at the age of 16, she was inspired to public service. After high school graduation, she moved to Washington, D.C. to work for the Department of Housing and Urban Development and later, for three U.S. Senators. After moving to Iowa and a stint with U.S. Senator Culver, she became a full-time student at Drake University, earning a bachelor's degree in 1982 and a law degree in 1984. She chaired the Iowa Democratic Party for two years, the first woman to do so. Elected in 1990, she became Iowa's first woman Attorney General and while in office authored one of the nation's first anti-stalking laws. She ran unsuccessfully for governor in 1994. In 1995, President Clinton appointed Campbell as the first director of the Violence Against Women Office, an agency of the U.S. Department of Justice. In that position, Campbell had the opportunity to travel throughout the country and to other nations. After her service as a member of the U.S. Delegation to the United Nations' Fourth World Conference on Women held in Beijing, she became a leading spokesperson on international human rights. Named in *Time* magazine as one of the 25 most influential people in America in 1997, Campbell continues her work in private practice.

*"She was the strongest voice in changing the way we think and act as a state and a people when it comes to violence against women."*  
– Thomas J. Miller, 2002

## *Sue Ellen Follon*

Volga native Sue Ellen Follon was a visionary leader and advocate for women. The *Des Moines Register* described her impact in this way: "You may never have heard her name, but there's a good chance she has touched your life." From 1976 through 1984, Follon was the executive director of the Iowa Commission on the Status of Women. She worked to expand the Commission's influence and scope by revising rape and sexual abuse laws; holding public hearings on domestic abuse, displaced homemakers, and the feminization of poverty; sponsoring a conference and brochure on Title IX; and leading Iowa to become the first state in the nation to take legislative action to address inequities in many facets of life. Follon then went on to become the first woman to serve as Vice President at the University of Northern Iowa. As the Vice President of Educational and Student Services, she supervised nine departments to help ensure the quality of student life. The hallmarks of her leadership were student-centeredness and leadership development. She was active in her community, working with civic groups, businesses, and local government. She made over 150 presentations from the local to the international level on the subjects of women's equality, leadership, higher education, and mentors for women and minorities. Follon earned a doctorate in higher education administration from Drake University in 1983. Born in 1942, Follon died on November 4, 1998, the day after voters passed the equal rights amendment to the Iowa Constitution.

*"Sue's extraordinary leadership was her ability to empower others to succeed."*  
– Mary Jean Montgomery, 2000

## *Alice Yost Jordan*

Internationally known, Alice Yost Jordan is one of the most distinguished and published American composers. She is best known for her choral and organ works numbering over 200, which have sold over 250,000 copies. A recital song, *Take Joy Home* (text: Jean Ingelow) commissioned by Sherrill Milnes, of Metropolitan Opera fame, and Jon Spong, pianist, received world-wide exposure on concert tours, was performed at the White House for a State Dinner in 1983 and is recorded on compact disc. Her arrangement of *America The Beautiful*, commissioned by the Iowa High School Music Association for the All-State Chorus and Orchestra, opens the All-State Festival Concert biennially. Other works commissioned by churches, universities and organizations across the United States total 40. Born in Davenport December 31, 1916, but a life-long resident of Des Moines, she graduated from Drake University, where she studied composition at the undergraduate and graduate levels with the late Dr. Francis J. Pyle. Grand View College conferred the Honorary Degree: Doctor of Letters in 1986. With her husband, the late Dr. Frank B. Jordan, former dean of the College of Fine Arts at Drake, she has been active in the cultural and educational life of Des Moines.

*"It is safe to say that on any given Sunday morning her compositions are widely heard throughout the United States."*

*– Sherrill Milnes, 2002*

## *Shirley Ruedy*

Shirley Ruedy of Cedar Rapids is a nationally recognized cancer journalist and survivor. Twice diagnosed with breast cancer, Ruedy conceived a biweekly "Cancer Update" column that *The Gazette* began publishing in 1991. By intertwining her original writings, guest columns by cancer experts, and readers' questions, her column is devoted exclusively to cancer. It frequently addresses issues specific to women, including breast and uterine cancer, mammography, tamoxifen, and hormone replacement therapy. "Cancer Update," perhaps the only such column in the United States, is carried in the Patient Education Center at the Mayo Clinic Women's Cancer Program. Each October, in recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Ruedy runs a column she co-wrote with a surgeon about the life journey of a breast cancer cell. She not only reaches her audience through her column, but also as a speaker. Serving as a role model and positive advocate for all those who have been diagnosed with cancer, Ruedy says that "for women to be in full and equal participation in our society, they must first be alive." She was born in Anamosa on January 14, 1936.

*"In a time when we rail against the press for sensationalizing all the terrible things that happen..., we neglect to recognize those who have the foresight to realize how positive the power of the press can be."*

*– Nancy Lee Ziese, 2000*



## *Diana “Di” L. Findley*

Diana “Di” L. Findley, born September 6, 1948 in Ontario, Oregon, now living in Mitchellville, is a champion for direct care workers. After working as a certified nursing assistant (CNA) for 13 years, Findley saw a need for a professional organization to provide educational opportunities for CNAs in 1992. For three years she worked on her own, with no salary to establish the Iowa CareGivers Association, whose vision is to maintain high quality care by offering direct care workers what they want and need – education, support, advocacy, and recognition. While advocating the extraordinary work of CNAs, she works to involve all stakeholders in health care. Findley believes that by addressing the needs of care providers, quality care can be improved. Under Findley’s directorship, the Iowa CareGivers Association has become a national model. Its Recruitment and Retention Survey and mentor project have also received national attention. To make sure the needs of frontline direct caregivers are always at the forefront of the Iowa CareGivers Association, Findley empowers CNAs to serve on boards and committees. Findley is a tireless crusader for direct care workers and quality care.

*“She had the vision to improve our profession, and by doing so, has improved us all.”*

*—Deb Larson, 2003*

## *May E. Francis, Ph.D.*

May E. Francis, Ph.D., a nationally recognized educator, author, scholar, and historian, was born November 2, 1880 in rural Mapleton, Minnesota. Francis began her career as a teacher in a one-room school in Bremer County. She quickly advanced through the teaching and administrative ranks. She drafted the Standard School Law and developed the regulations to implement the law, which was designed to improve educational programs in one-room schools. In 1922, Francis became the first woman to be elected to statewide public office in Iowa – state superintendent of public instruction. Her one term as State Superintendent was marked by controversy: she advocated high school teachers must complete at least two years of college, opposed school dress codes, and championed the one-room school and spending restraint. She lost her re-election bid and moved to Texas, where she received a Ph.D. from the University of Texas in 1934. She had received her B.A. degree from Iowa State Teachers College in 1910 and M.A. degree from Teachers College in Columbia University, New York. She moved to New York and in 1948, returned to Iowa, settling in Waterloo. Following her education, she undertook a varied career of teaching, government work, writing, and a final unsuccessful run for state superintendent. Her popular historical novel, *Jim Bowie’s Lost Mine*, had five printings; the final edition was published in 1970. She also authored a fourth-grade spelling textbook. Francis died in 1968.

*“As a teacher, author, and political figure, she was an extraordinary woman in the history of Iowa.”*

*—Sarah Meyer-Reyerson, 2002*



## *Jean Hall Lloyd-Jones*

Jean Hall Lloyd-Jones, of Iowa City, began her career as a volunteer in local peace and civic activities, including Another Mother for Peace, the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, vigils and teach-ins to protest the Viet Nam war. A member of the League of Women Voters since 1955, she served as local and state president. In 1971 she led the League to join the ACLU, AFL-CIO, and the Democratic Party to petition the Supreme Court in the successful effort to overturn the reapportionment plan adopted by the state legislature. In 1977 she chaired the Iowa Coordinating Committee for International Women's Year. She was elected to the Iowa General Assembly in 1978, serving four terms in the House and two terms in the Senate. As a state legislator, she and others formed a support group for women pages, which later became the Legislative Women's Caucus. She managed the "Buckle up Baby" bill, steered the government reorganization bill through the House, and led the effort to revitalize rail service through central Iowa. She conceived the idea for the Iowa Peace Institute, worked to build and fund that organization, and served as its chair for the first eight years. She is the only woman in Iowa to have been nominated by a major party for the U.S. Senate. After retiring from the Legislature, she received an M.A. in Conflict Resolution from Antioch University. She has been a member of the Iowa Sister States Program for many years, traveling to China, Russia and Japan as a citizen ambassador. Lloyd-Jones was born October 14, 1929, in Washington, DC.

*"The women of Iowa are better off because of Jean's devotion to our interests and concerns."*

— Janet A. Carl, 2002

## *Margaret Mary Toomey*

Margaret Mary Toomey of Des Moines devoted nearly three decades of her life to serving the residents of Des Moines' Oakridge Neighborhood. A one-time Dominican sister, Toomey taught English and served as chaplain in Wisconsin before moving to Des Moines in 1972. Soon after moving to the Oakridge neighborhood, she began volunteering with children and elderly residents and led a tenant group to successfully fight a rent increase. In 1973 she joined the board of directors and in 1975 became the complex manager of the Oakridge Neighborhood. Not only was she the executive director for the 300-unit housing project, she was also the fundraiser, public relations manager, family counselor, maintenance supervisor, playground supervisor, and eyes of the neighborhood working with the Des Moines Police Department. During Toomey's tenure, Oakridge opened a nationally accredited childcare center, started after-school programs, organized activities for the elderly and provided computer, vocational and job training programs. When drug and gang violence found their way to Oakridge, Toomey fought back. She added cameras and security gates, hired off-duty police officers, and joined residents in several marches and rallies to "take back" their neighborhood. Toomey was born in Chicago on August 23, 1937.

*"Margaret Toomey's story is one of faith, hope, and courage... proof that one person can have a significant impact on the lives of many others."*

— Mary Milz, 2002

## Joy Cole Corning

Joy Cole Corning created the first statewide effort in Iowa's history to accept, value, and celebrate diversity—people's differences, unique needs, similarities, and contributions. As lieutenant governor, in 1991 she turned an appalling incident driven by prejudice and bigotry into the impetus for creating community initiatives—forums, team-building activities, a major television presentation, and highly successful annual statewide conferences. The breadth of Corning's leadership is remarkable: children and families benefited when, as a state senator, she successfully introduced Iowa's first measure outlawing physical punishment in schools and when her hotly debated bill to extend the statute of limitations on sexual abuse passed, paving the way for later extensions. Lt. Governor Corning led projects that increased the number of good foster homes and dramatically raised the number of adoptions of special-needs children. For the rights and well-being of women, she chaired Iowa's first STOP Violence Against Women Coordinating Council; chaired the 75th Anniversary of Woman Suffrage; and after leaving public office, led campaigns to raise funds for the chapel at the Iowa Correctional Institution for Women. In education she served the Cedar Falls School Board for 11 years—nine as president, helped develop Iowa Gifted and Talented (was state president, helped author the first state plan), led a workplace literacy project for the state, served on University of Northern Iowa boards, and established the UNI Joy Cole Corning Distinguished Leadership Lecture Series. Other notable roles: chair of National Conference of Lt. Governors and continuing work with a dozen boards and not-for-profit organizations. Corning was born in Bridgewater on September 7, 1932.

*"She is such a strong advocate; a person who is heard without having to shout and be loud – a person whose presence is felt wherever she goes."*  
– Robert Ray, 2003

## Mary Ann Evans

Mary Ann Evans, through her work at Iowa State University (ISU), has been a voice for women within the academic community, a path builder for girls and women interested in nontraditional careers, and an enabler for international women in science and engineering. Since 1978, she has been a leader in recommending how ISU could better serve women students and employees. She was a driving force on the University Committee on Women for more than 20 years. When it became clear that both faculty and students had a critical need for childcare, Evans led the way in developing the ISU Child Care Resource Program, which grew from a single child care center to a system of services. She completed this important work while at the same time returning to school to earn master's and doctoral degrees from ISU. Recognizing how few women were enrolling in science and engineering at ISU, she founded and directed the Program for Women in Science and Engineering (PWSE), a university-wide administrative program focused on women in science and engineering. PWSE is a comprehensive program serving numerous girls and women, both on and off campus, with initiatives such as career conferences, mentoring programs, internships, role models, and scholarships. Evans was also a co-founder of Iowa State University's International Women in Science and Engineering program (IWISE), whose activities have reached women working in research institutes, universities, government labs, nongovernmental organizations in more than 20 countries. She has been active in the community, serving as a volunteer at the Center for Creative Justice, Ames United Way, Ames Civil Service Commission, and the Iowa Women's Political Caucus. Evans was born September 1, 1939 in Buffalo, NY.

*"Mary Ann Evans' professional legacy thrives in the lives of women...they have been inspired through her work ...even when it meant bucking tradition, breaking tightly-held all-male networks, or facing blatant intolerance and bias."*  
– Pam St. John, 2004

## *Ruth Cole Nash*

Ruth Cole Nash, born in Minneapolis on February 10, 1922, was a supporter for the arts and worked tirelessly for social change. A member of Phi Beta Kappa, she graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1944. She effectively organized study groups and neighborhood activism in opening housing to all races, helping to end segregation in Cedar Rapids. Nash was active in the NAACP and Faces and Voices, an annual multicultural celebration in Dubuque. She resigned from Delta Gamma sorority in 1962 after a chapter was put on probation for allowing an African-American woman to pledge. Nash saw the arts as a means to end racism, prejudice, violence, and injustice. She was instrumental in starting and supporting numerous cultural programs and events in Dubuque: Dubuquefest, which was the city's first festival; Iowa Citizens for the Arts, now called Iowans for the Arts, a statewide lobby; Dubuque Fine Arts Society; Dubuque Museum of Art; Rocco Buda Art Resource Center; and art programs targeting youth and the disadvantaged. She was a mentor and supporter for many artists in different fields: fine arts, photography, crafts, poetry, and fiction. Committed to making the arts accessible and exciting to everyone, especially the less fortunate, Nash often provided scholarships and gave gallery space at no cost. She believed deeply in the necessity for art in every person's life, and in the rights of the individual. An activist to the very end, Nash brought attention to the right of a person to end a life of pain and mental deterioration when she drowned herself on September 15, 2002 in Dubuque.

*"Ruth was a true activist, organizer, and a dedicated worker in the struggle for justice and equal rights."*

*– Dr. Percy G. Harris, 2001*

## *Sally J. Pederson*

Sally J. Pederson has made it her life's work to advocate for people who cannot advocate for themselves. From the time she graduated from Iowa State University and entered the business world at Meredith Corporation until now, she has made volunteer community and political involvement a staple in her daily life. As the parent of a child with a disability, she emerged as a forceful social advocate, not only for people with disabilities but also for children generally, for minorities, and for gays and lesbians. As president of the Autism Society of Iowa, she traveled the state working with parents and educators to assure that children with autism were being served appropriately. Her leadership in those years is widely credited in the creation of the Autism Services Program, a statewide resource in schools. She was founding president of The Homestead Living and Learning Center for Adults with Autism. Pederson's work and influence have not been limited to Iowa. She was a special guest at the first White House Conference on Mental Health and served as a trustee for the National Alliance for Autism Research. In 2004, she was an invited delegate to the Global Women's Action Network for Children where she worked with women leaders from around the world to create strategies that will try to build the political will to globally address women and children's issues. As Lieutenant Governor of Iowa, Pederson works side by side with the Governor, who often refers to her as the "conscience of this administration." She has served on the Executive Committee of the National Lieutenant Governors Association and as national chair of the Democratic Lieutenant Governors Association. Pederson was born January 13, 1951, in Muscatine and grew up in Vinton.

*"As Lt. Governor, as a mother, as a wife, and as a citizen of Iowa, Sally Pederson has made it her life's mission to improve the lives of those around her."*

*– Senator Tom Harkin, 2004*

## *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.

*"She is justice advocate's  
advocate of the  
highest caliber."*

*– Rev. Carlos C. Jayne, 2005*

## *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.

*"The ignored and the  
underserved have a huge  
voice in Brenda LaBlanc."*

*– Stephen L. Henry, 2005*

## *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.

*"Susan quite simply  
changed the world  
for the better."*

*– Esta Soler, 2004*

## *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.

*Her work...always reflected  
her concern for those  
who could not advocate  
for themselves."*

*– John R. Kelly, 1997*



## *Jeannette Eyerly*

Jeannette Eyerly, an Iowan for more than 90 years, is an award-winning author of books for children and teens and an advocate for mental health. First published at age eight, she wrote twenty books of fiction for young people, two books of poetry and co-authored a book on writing young adult novels. She graduated from the University of Iowa in 1930 with a bachelor's degree in English. After co-writing a nationally syndicated column in the late 1950s, Eyerly later wrote eighteen novels for young adults, in which the subject matter was ahead of its time - high school drop-outs, abortion, suicide, divorce, and alcoholism. Her work in the public policy arena for treatment of mental illness in Iowa has changed the face of how services are delivered and the stigma attached to mental illness. Following the Community Mental Health Center Act of 1963, Eyerly began a grassroots effort in Des Moines to establish an alternative to hospital care for mental illness. Her dogged determination led to the 1969 establishment of the Polk County Mental Health Center, of which she was a founding member. It was renamed the Eyerly-Ball Community Mental Health Services in 1995 to honor her work. She also is a former member of the Iowa Commission for the Blind and past president of the Des Moines Child Guidance Center. She was born on June 7, 1908 in Topeka, Kansas. She was married 65 years to the late Frank Eyerly, managing editor of *The Des Moines Register and Tribune* and is the mother of two daughters. She has six grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

*"Her persistent passion  
has always been a better  
place for all."*

*- Mary M. Kennedy, 2005*

## *Christine H. B. Grant*

Christine H. B. Grant, associate professor of sports administration and former women's athletic director at the University of Iowa, is a nationally known advocate for gender equity in intercollegiate athletics. As a result of her leadership following her appointment in 1973, the women's athletic program reached national prominence. Her recognition of disparities in the resources allotted to women's and men's athletics led her to become a champion of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. Grant has served as an expert consultant to the Health, Education and Welfare Office for Civil Rights Title IX Task Force. In addition, she has served as an expert witness in numerous Title IX cases, and as a consultant on women's athletics, and has also published widely on intercollegiate athletics and equity issues. She was a founding member of the Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women and later served as its President. After serving on the Board of the National Association of Collegiate Women's Athletic Administrators, she was then elected its President. Grant was a member of the U.S. Olympic Committee in 1980 and was selected as a field hockey judge for the 1980 Moscow Olympic Games. Although she officially retired as athletic director from the University of Iowa in 2000, she continued to teach in the graduate program in the Department of Health and Sport Studies until May 2006. Her work as an advocate for gender equity in college and high school athletics will continue. She was born in Bo'ness, Scotland on May 27, 1936.

*"She's been one of the  
...leaders in the struggle for  
fairness for all women in  
all aspects of life, not just  
in athletics."*

*- C. Vivian Stringer, 2001*



## *Dorothy Marion Bouleris Paul*

Dorothy Marion Bouleris Paul, born in New York State, is a world citizen who emphasizes her connections with the world's people by providing leadership in organizations dedicated to human rights and world peace. A true internationalist, Paul was executive director of the Iowa Division of the United Nations Association of the United States (UNA-USA) from 1979 to 1996. She then served as executive director for programs from 1996 to 2000. She participated in six international conferences, including being the UNA-USA official observer for the 1995 UN Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, China and the 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. In 1995, she was awarded the UNA-USA Arnold Goodman Award in recognition of her unending creative talents in producing world class programs linking UNA with other non-governmental organizations, public officials, the media and educational institutions throughout the State of Iowa and the region. Since 2000, she has worked with the University of Iowa Center for Human Rights as Executive Director and most recently as the associate director for community affairs. She has been active in many other community activities including the Iowa City Human Rights Commission, Iowa City Foreign Relations Council, Rotary Club of Iowa City (noon), Emma Goldman Clinic for Women, and Human Rights Iowa City.

*"She is a model for how to generously contribute to a community."*

*– Kenneth Cmiel, 2005*

## *Margaret Wragg Sloss*

Margaret Wragg Sloss, a pioneer in nontraditional careers for women, was born on October 28, 1901 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. An incredible leader for women in science, particularly veterinary science, and education, she earned a bachelor's degree in zoology from Iowa State College in 1923, and a master's degree in microscopic anatomy in 1932. In 1923, she became the first female staff member in veterinary medicine at ISU as a pathology laboratory technician. Sloss contributed to changing the admissions policy at the veterinary school to allow admission to women. She applied for admission into the doctoral program and was denied. She persisted and was allowed to enroll in classes following her research on land-grant admissions policies that stated admissions could not be refused based on sex. In 1938, Sloss became the first woman at Iowa State College to earn the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree, the 27th in the USA. Although she taught at Iowa State College from 1941, she did not reach full professor until 1965. In 1940, Sloss was one of 100 women pursuing nontraditional careers who were invited by Carrie Chapman Catt to attend the Women's Centennial Congress in New York City. She was invited by Eleanor Roosevelt to the White House in 1944. She established the Women's Veterinary Medicine Association in 1947 and served two years as its president. Sloss died December 11, 1979 and is interred in the Iowa State University cemetery. ISU named the Margaret Sloss Women's Center in her honor in 1981.

*"Throughout her career [she] was the unappointed but widely recognized leader of women in veterinary medicine."*

*– Dr. George Beran, 2005*

**JULIA FALTINSON ANDERSON** (inducted in 1993) successfully cochaired the task force that developed a College for Seniors at Iowa State University, which offers noncredit courses for retirees living in central Iowa.

**PEG STAIR ANDERSON** (inducted in 1982) and her husband moved to Tucson, Arizona in 1987, following Anderson's six-year term on the Iowa Board of Regents. She stayed involved in education and women's issues in retirement by serving on the North Central Association Commission on Institutions of Higher Education, and helping to organize an Arizona Way Up Conference for Women in Higher Education Administration, as she had done in Iowa. She is also active in the Episcopal Church, having served six years on the National Council of the Episcopal Church. Anderson is currently a member of the Board of Trustees of Seabury-Western Seminary.

**RUTH BLUFORD ANDERSON** (inducted in 1982) is the author of *From Mother's Aid Child to University Professor: An Autobiography of an American Black Woman*, 1985. In 1989, Anderson became the first African-American woman to be elected to an at-large seat on the Black Hawk County Board of Supervisors. She also served on the Iowa Equality in the Courts Task Force. In 1990, Anderson retired after teaching 22 years and serves as Professor Emeritus for the University of Northern Iowa, Department of Social Work. Among the honors she has received are the Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters, Simpson College, 1990; Great Delta Teacher of the Year, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Baltimore, Maryland, 1992; and the Kirk Strong Award, Governor's Conference on Substance Abuse, 1992. In 1996, Anderson was inducted into the Iowa African-American Hall of Fame.

**MILDRED WIRT BENSON** (inducted in 1995) is the recipient of the Ohio Newspaper Women's Association Life Achievement Award

and the *Blades'* Lifetime Achievement Award, the first-ever given by the newspaper. Benson died on May 28, 2002.

**PROFESSOR MARY JAYLENE BERG** (inducted in 1999) died on October 1, 2004.

**DR. GLADYS B. BLACK** (inducted in 1985) published weekly bird columns in the *Knoxville Journal Express*, *Pella Chronicle*, and the *Marion County News*. She also presented programs for civic and church groups on *Birds of Red Rock* or *Birds of the Bible*. Dr. Black assisted in "Environmental Education" Days for all sixth graders of Marion County and participated in many book signings for her book, *Iowa Birdlife*. Black died on July 19, 1998.

**CHARLOTTE HUGHES BRUNER** (inducted in 1997) served as the keynote speaker for the first Iowa State University International Women's Day and presented a paper, *The Grandmother Bond*, at the 1998 National Meeting of African Literature Association. She died on December 4, 1999.

**MARY E. DOMINGUES CAMPOS** (inducted in 1995) served on the Civil Service Commission, Human Rights Commission, cochaired the Brown-Black Coalition, and is a charter member of the First Hispanic American Legion Auxiliary Unit #731. She received numerous awards, including the Outstanding Alumna Award of St. Anthony Class of 1943, Des Moines Human Rights Commission Award, YWCA Mary Louise Smith Award for Racial Justice, Urban Dreams Pioneer Award, and Iowa Democratic Party Minnette Doderer Award.

**CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT** (inducted in 1975) posthumously received the Iowa Award in 1992. In 1991, the National 19th Amendment Society formed to purchase, restore, and maintain Catt's girlhood home in Charles City, Iowa. The Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics at Iowa State University began in 1992,

serving as a living memorial of her leadership on feminist and political issues. The center is now located in Catt Hall, the old, renovated botany building on the ISU campus.

**BETTY JEAN "BEJE" WALKER CLARK** (inducted in 2000) died on April 10, 2005.

**ROXANNE BARTON CONLIN** (inducted in 1981) became the first woman candidate for Iowa governor on a major party ticket in 1982. In 1983, she entered into private practice of law and now heads her own firm specializing in cases involving women's issues. In 1988, she became the first woman officer of the Association of Trial Lawyers of America, a 60,000-member bar association, becoming its first female president in 1992. Conlin is the recipient of the 1998 Rosalie Wahl Leadership Award from the Minnesota Women's Lawyers Association, was named in 1998 by the National Law Journal as one of "The Fifty Most Influential Women Lawyers in American," was named the 1997 Woman of the Year by the Metro Women's Network, was featured in the 1995-96 *Best Lawyers in America*, and was elected to membership in the Inner Circle of Advocates in 1995. After September 11, 2001, she served on the Board of Trial Lawyer's Care, which provided free legal services to all the victims' families and to survivors. She was elected to Membership in the College of Labor and Employment Lawyers. In 2003, she was selected for the National Center for State Courts Lawyers Committee and to the Board of Trustees of the National Institute of Trial Advocacy. In 2000, *The Des Moines Register* named her one of the Fifty Most Influential Iowans, and in 2002, the *National Law Journal* named her one of the Ten Most Influential women Lawyers in the Country. She has received the Mary Louise Smith Award for Racial Justice from the YWCA and gave the Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecture in New York City on behalf of the New York Bar and the NOW Legal Defense and Education fund. In 2005, she received the Iowa Juneteenth Liberty Award.

**MARGUERITE ESTERS COTHORN**, (inducted in 1986) served on the Governor's Volunteer Advisory Council, was appointed spokesperson on women's issues for the American Association of Retired Persons, served as member of Broadlawns Medical Center Study Committee, and chaired the Study Committee on Des Moines International Airport. Cothorn served over 10 years on the Board of Des Moines Playground and Recreation Association. She continued to be active with the League of Women Voters until her death in 1999.

**ROSA CUNNINGHAM** (inducted in 1980) died in 1987.

**JOLLY ANN HORTON DAVIDSON** (inducted in 1987) continues to be an active volunteer, particularly at the local level. Davidson serves in Clarinda and in Bradenton, Florida during winter months on Iowa Public Television's Committee on Editorial Integrity in Public Broadcasting. For eight years, she served as the national spokesperson for the Family C.O.U.R.S.E. Consortium for eight years. The Consortium, based in Washington, D.C., worked with parents and children across the country, facilitating family communication and good decision-making skills.

**EVELYN K. SCOTT DAVIS** (inducted in 1983) was appointed to the Board of Friends of Iowa Public Television in 1990. In 1992, the faculty of Grinnell College conferred upon her the degree of Doctor of Laws. A children's park at 16 Forest Street in Des Moines was named Evelyn K. Davis Park in August of 1993. Davis died on October 27, 2001.

**JACQUELINE DAY** (inducted in 1978) served as confidential secretary and honorary colonel to Governors Robert Ray and Norman Erbe. She was a member of the Iowa Board of Parole for six years, chairing four of those years. She also chaired the Governor's Blue Ribbon Committee for Recruitment and Retention in Iowa National

Guard as well as committees to erect World War II, Korean, and Vietnam veteran memorials on State Capitol grounds. She has served on search committees for the Deputy Adjutant General of Iowa, Chief of Iowa Highway Patrol, and executive director of the Commission on Veterans Affairs. Day served 15 years on the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy Council. She is currently serving on the Iowa Centennial Commission which provides scholarships for Iowa seniors. Day is active with the Meskwaki Indians at Tama, who call her "Old Wolf Lady." She has been honored with induction into the East High School Hall of Fame. Upon her retirement from VA Medical Center, a shelter house was erected and dedicated to Day named "DAY PLAZA," the plaque inscribed with "No Greater Love." Day died on June 23, 2002.

**GERTRUDE DIEKEN** (inducted in 1995) was selected "Woman of the Year" by Women in Communications in 1947. She received the Coe College Alumni Award of Merit in 1957. She died August 31, 2002.

**MINNETTE DODERER** (inducted in 1979) continued her service in the legislature's Iowa House of Representatives from 1981 to 2000. While in the legislature, she served as cochair of the General Assembly Women's Caucus; chair of Small Business, Economic Development & Trade; chair of Small Business and Commerce Committee; vice-chair of Budget and Taxation Committee of the National Conference of State Legislatures; and chair of the Ways and Means Committee. She sponsored and was instrumental in the passage of legislation that is pertinent to Iowa women and their equality. Among the many honors and awards she has received are the Reproductive Rights Award, 1998; Business and Professional Women Woman of Achievement Award, 1997; Citation from The American Academy of Pediatrics for sponsorship of Legislation for Post Delivery Benefits and Care of Iowa's Infants, 1996; Friend of Nursing Award, 1996; Feminist of the Year Award,

1996; Iowa City Senior Center Woman of the Year, 1995; Gold Seal Award, Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence, 1995; President Pioneer Lawmakers, 1993-95; ERA Tribute, 1992; Cristine Wilson Medal for Equality and Justice, 1989; Friend of Education Award, Iowa City, 1986; Distinguished Legislative Service Award, Iowa State Education Association; and the Good Citizenship Medal, Sons of the American Revolution. She died on August 12, 2005.

**LOIS H. EICHACKER** (inducted in 1994) is currently serving on the boards of directors of the Iowa Commission on Community Action Agencies (past chair) and African American Historical Museum of Iowa (past president). She has also served on the Iowa Department of Economic Development (past chair and vice-chair), the Institute for Social and Economic Development, The University of Iowa Friends of the Library Advisory Board, the African American Heritage Foundation, NAACP, AAUW, and University of Iowa Alumni Association Board (past president). In 1997, she received recognition as a special Friend of Legal Services of Iowa and is a 1999 recipient of The University of Iowa Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumni Award for Service.

**BEVERLY BETH GEORGE EVERETT** (inducted in 1983), after completing her term on the Iowa State Extension Advisory Council, accepted a term with the Iowa State Extended and Continuing Education Advisory, and was involved as facilitator for the Art of Association Project of Humanities Iowa. Everett was president and Used Book Sale Chair for the Oskaloosa Branch of AAUW, continued on the Ag and Rural Development Committee of Mahaska County and as liaison for AAUW to the United Nations Association of Iowa. Continued activities with the United Methodist Church in Christian Education, music, United Methodist Women, and District Superintendent Advisory. Everett was a Trustee of Iowa Wesleyan College, serving as chair of its External Relations Committee. She died on January 24, 2001.



**MERLE WILNA FLEMING** (inducted in 1990) has served on the Des Moines Strategic Planning Commission from 1997-99 (its chair 1997-98), continues to serve as a hearing officer for the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services on a case-by-case basis, and serves as parliamentarian for Drake University Head Start Policy Council. She is a member of the American Bar Association, Iowa Bar Association, Polk County Bar Association, and Polk County Women Attorneys. In 1995, Fleming retired from Ahlers Law Firm in Des Moines, where she specialized in Education Law. From 1994-95, she served as chair of the IBA Women and Minorities Committee and from 1993-96 the IBA Administrative Law Section Council. Fleming chaired the Study of Iowa Budget Process Committee of the League of Women Voters of Iowa. She was board member and president of the League of Women Voters of Metro Des Moines. Fleming has also served as a board member of the Iowa Civil Liberties Union, serving as president for one year, has chaired the Des Moines Strategic Planning Commission, and is the vice-president of the Metro Des Moines Opera Guild.

**GWENDOLYN WILSON FOWLER** (inducted in 1987) died November 19, 1997.

**BETTY JEAN FURGERSON** (inducted in 1990) has retired as the director of the Waterloo Human Rights Commission. Furgerson now serves as president of the Advisory Board to the University of Northern Iowa Leadership Studies Program and chair of Regents Affirmative Action Priority Study committee. She continues as a member of the Iowa Department of Education's Multicultural, Nonsexist Curriculum Committee, which is now called Educational Equity Committee, and was a member of the Iowa Literacy Academy.

**MARY GARST** (inducted in 1981) completed her term as president of the Iowa Civil Liberties Union in 1993 and has since completed her board terms for the Chicago Federal Reserve,

International Harvester, Burlington Northern Railroad, and Northwestern Bell Telephone.

**WILLIE STEVENSON GLANTON** (inducted in 1986) soon after went on a work-study mission to Russia and China with a 22-member group of the National Federal Bar Association. Glanton has served as president of the Iowa Federal Bar Association and on the Committee on Women and Minorities--Iowa Bar Association. She has served on the board of directors for the Des Moines General Hospital, Elsie Mason Manor and Ligutti Tower Housing, Golden Circle Incubator, National Conference of Christians and Jews--Iowa, and Mid-City Vision Committee. She is on the board of trustees for Des Moines University. Glanton is also on the President's Commission on Student Diversity, Drake University; Executive Council of the Boy Scouts of America--Mid-Iowa Council; and Greater Des Moines Charter Commission. Glanton received the Legacy Celebration Award for distinguished service as an area and national officer to The Links, Inc., 1993; Young Women's Resource Center Visionary Woman Award, 1991; the Judge Luther T. Glanton Community Service Award for Meritorious Service to the Community at Large, given by Blacks in Government, 1992; and the Legacy Celebration Award from Links, Inc., 1993.

**MARY A. GREFE** (inducted in 1980) is the retired president of LEAD Associates, Ltd. of Des Moines. Currently, she serves on the board of trustees of Morningside College and as treasurer of the Iowa Peace Institute, for which she formerly served as chairperson. She is the past president of the National American Association of University Women--the only person to have been nominated and elected from the floor of the national convention. She has also served as president of the AAUW Educational Foundation, which makes grants of over \$2 million annually to women scholars. Past community service in Des Moines includes serving as president of the Des Moines School

Board and member for 12 years and past president of the Metro Des Moines League of Women Voters. A former YWCA executive director, Grefe has been active at all levels of government in working for equal rights for women. She was appointed by President Ford as the first woman to chair the National Advisory Council on Adult Education, has travelled widely as an official government delegate to international conferences overseas, including Tokyo, Japan, Copenhagen, Denmark, Nairobi, Kenya, and as a guest of the Chinese government to China. She received the National Brotherhood Award from the National Conference for Community and Justice. She holds five honorary doctorates, the most recent in 1997 from the University of New England.

**EDNA M. GRIFFIN** (inducted in 1985) received the Community Service Award from Blacks in Government in 1993 and the Cristine Wilson Medal for Equality and Justice in 1998. In 1998, on the 50th anniversary of her successful desegregation efforts, Griffin was honored by Urban Dreams for her leadership and bravery. A dedication of a commemorative plaque was also held at the site that once housed Katz Drug Store, followed by an evening reception/reunion/reenactment at the State Historical Building. In 1998 the Flynn Building, which housed Katz, was renamed the Edna Griffin Building. Griffin died on February 8, 2000.

**VIRGINIA HARPER** (inducted in 1992) served as President of the Fort Madison Branch of the NAACP and was involved in the Fort Madison School District's Human Equity Committee. She died in 1997. In 1998, Harper posthumously received the Martin Luther King, Jr. Achievement Award from the Iowa Commission on the Status of African-Americans.

**HELEN BROWN HENDERSON** (inducted in 1992) died on May 17, 1997.

**HELEN LEBARON HILTON** (inducted in 1983) died in August of 1993. Prior to her death, she was honored with the first Ames League of Women Voters Carrie Chapman Catt Award, and the College of Family & Consumer Sciences honored her as its first honorary alumna.

**PHYLLIS JOSEPHINE HUGHES** (inducted in 2001) died April 17, 2005.

**MERIDEL LE SUEUR** (inducted in 1996) died on November 14, 1996 in Hudson, Wisconsin.

**MABEL LEE** (inducted in 1979) died on December 3, 1985.

**TWILA PARKER LUMMER** (inducted in 1988) is a member of the Advisory Council, Department of Educational Administration and Supervisors, College of Education, Western Illinois University; Episcopal Trinity Cathedral's Positive Parenting At Trinity; the Foundation Board of Vera French Mental Health Center; and has served on the Allocation Board of the Scott County Regional Authority in the dispersing of funds received from the Diamond Lady Riverboat. These funds were allocated to the Domestic Abuse Center, Maternal Health Center, the D.A.R.E. program of the Bettendorf Police Department, the CASI Center, the Bettendorf Children's Museum, and many other nonprofit groups.

**OLA BABCOCK MILLER** (inducted in 1975) had the Old State Historical building named after her in 1999, the second State of Iowa building to be named after a woman. The Ola Babcock Miller Building was dedicated on January 31, 2002.

**MARILYN O. MURPHY** (inducted in 1988) remains the social concerns facilitator for Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Sioux City, and is also serving in the capacity of Rural Life Contact for the Diocese. She serves on the boards of



directors of La Casa Latina, Legal Services of Iowa (Sioux City Office), the Missouri River Historical Development Corporation, and the Iowa Citizen Action Network. She is also a member of the Diocesan Commission on Women, the Iowa Advisory Committee to the U.S. Civil Rights Commission, and the Iowa Family Farm Coalition. She has emphasized her participation in local, regional, and statewide coalitions addressing the rural crisis. She has produced several videos in English and Spanish, on domestic violence, child sexual abuse, rural heritage, rural women, women in the church, elderly women and women in prison. Murphy was active in her local campaign for the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment.

**ALICE VAN WERT MURRAY** (inducted in 1985) was nominated for the Helen LaBaron Hilton Recognition, awarded to an ISU alumnus for outstanding community leadership as well as leadership in the College of Family and Consumer Sciences Alumni Association and the University Alumni Association, 1999; named one of eight Most Outstanding Rural Women Whose Lives and Contributions Have Bridged Generations, 1998; named one of *150 Iowans Who Made a Difference in 150 Years of Agricultural Progress* (1996 book written by Don Muhm); received the Distinguished and Meritorious Service Award from the American Farm Bureau, 1992; was elected to the Board of Governors of Living History Farms, 1992; and received the Award for Outstanding Contributions while serving on the Board of Trustees of the Iowa Safety Council, 1987. She serves on the Stanton Memorial Carillon Foundation Board and various Living History Farms committees and is a volunteer ambassador for the College of Family and Consumer Sciences and a volunteer for Green Hills Retirement Community Care.

**LOUISE ROSENFELD NOUN** (inducted in 1981) has written three books since her induction, *Journey to Autonomy, A Memoir, More Strong-Minded Women: Iowa Feminists Tell Their*

*Stories*, and *Iowa Women in the WPA*, as well as several historical articles for the *Annals of Iowa* and the *Palimpsest*. In 1994, Noun curated *Three Berlin Artists of the Weimar Era: Hannah Hoeh, Kaethe Kollwitz, Jeanne Mammen*, an exhibition for the Des Moines Art Center. She founded and was the chief funder of the Chrysalis Foundation and cofounder of the Iowa Women's Archives at the University of Iowa. She has served on the ACLU Advisory Committee from 1975 to the present. Among the many honors and awards Noun has received since induction are Arts/Humanities/Aging honor for outstanding service awarded by the Iowa Arts Council, Iowa Humanities Board; Doctor of Humane Letters, honorary degree awarded by Cornell College, 1985; Doctor of Humane Letters, honorary degree, awarded by Drake University, 1991; Outstanding Achievement Award in the Arts, given by the Iowa Arts Council on its 25th anniversary, 1992; Peterson-Harlan Award, which recognizes an individual, group or organization that has made significant long-term or continuing contributions to Iowa history, 1993; the Cristine Wilson Medal for Equality and Justice, 1993; the Des Moines Roosevelt High School Hall of Fame, 1993; The University of Iowa Alumni Award, 1994; the Philanthropic Vision Award from the Ms. Foundation, 1995; and the Award for Lifetime Services to the Public Humanities from the Iowa Humanities Board, 1996. She died August 23, 2002.

**MARY JANE ODELL** (inducted in 1979) was appointed Secretary of State in 1980, and was then elected in 1982, serving six years. In 1988, she received the H.R. Gross Award for Lifetime Contributions to Broadcasting and Public Service. She has served on the board of the Iowa Peace Institute and is currently a board member of the Easter Seal Foundation.

**JESSIE M. PARKER** (inducted in 1986) had the State's Vocational Rehabilitation building named after her in 1988, making the Parker Building the first State of Iowa government building to be named after a woman.

**MARY LOUISE PETERSEN** (inducted in 1984) has finished her work with the American Council on Education, the Iowa Peace Institute Board of Directors, the Educational Testing Service Board of Directors, the National Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. Board of Directors, and the Iowa Student Loan Liquidity Corporation Board of Directors. She serves on the boards of directors of the University of Iowa Foundation Board of Directors and the Myrtue Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees. She has also been active with Shelby County Health Services.

**GLENDA GATES RILEY** (inducted in 1990) accepted appointment as the Alexander M. Bracken Professor of History at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana in 1991. She published *Divorce: An American Tradition*, 1991; *A Place to Grow: Women in the American West*, 1992; *The Life and Legacy of Annie Oakley*, 1994; *Building and Breaking Families in the American West*, 1996; *Women and Nature: Saving the "Wild West"*, 1999; *Prairie Voices: Iowa's Pioneer Women*, 1996; and a second edition of *Inventing the American Woman: An Inclusive History*. In 1992, she held the Wayne Aspinall Visiting Professorship at Mesa State College in Colorado and appeared in the television special *The Wild West* on the Fox network. She has served as president of the Western History Association. In 1995, she received the Outstanding Researcher Award from Ball State University and in 1998, received a Fulbright Research Award. She continues to speak and consult widely in such countries as Korea and Ireland.

**LOUISE ROSENFELD** (inducted in 1979) died in July 1990.

**EVE SCHMOLL RUBENSTEIN** (inducted in 1992) died in 1993.

**EDITH ROSE MURPHY SACKETT** (inducted in 1984) died in 1987.

**RUTH BUXTON SAYRE** (inducted in 1976) died in 1980 at the age of 84.

**DOROTHY SCHRAMM** (inducted in 1986) died on January 28, 2006.

**GEORGIA ANN ROGERS SIEVERS** (inducted in 1989) was appointed to Senator Tom Harkin's Academy Screening Committee in 1991. She has served on the Iowa West Racing Association Board of Directors, working on the Grant Committee to increase monies for tuition grant programs, the Area Junior High Leadership Academy, and better fire and emergency equipment and facilities. She continues work towards restoration of the Avoca Courthouse, which received National 1st Award for Historical Preservation by the National Federated Garden Club, and is a Trustee for the Avoca Courthouse Preservation Endowment Fund. Sievers also serves on the Iowa West Foundation Board, County Board of Compensation, as Community Director for the Outreach Program of Jennie Edmundson Hospital, and as cochair of Pottawattamie County Democratic Party. Sievers was appointed to the Avoca Civic Development and Ecology Committee. In 1998, she received the Avoca, Iowa Outstanding Citizen Award and State of Iowa Federated Garden Club's "Garden Angel Award" in 1999.

**DR. JEANNE MONTGOMERY SMITH** (inducted in 1987) continued to practice medicine in an academic setting until September 1993, retiring after more than 51 years of practice, teaching, research, and writing. She and her family have, once again, taken a refugee family into their home until they could reestablish themselves. Smith's retirement project, which is already underway, is to write stories of her eventful life, following the great changes in medicine and the roles of men and women.

**MARY LOUISE SMITH** (inducted in 1977) received the Distinguished Alumni Award from the University of Iowa, the Cristine Wilson

Medal for Equality and Justice, and the Friends of Iowa Civil Rights Award, and was the first recipient of the Mary Louise Smith Award, established by the YWCA to honor individuals for outstanding efforts to eliminate racism. She held honorary doctoral degrees from Drake University and Grinnell College. Smith cofounded the Iowa Women's Archives and was a member of the Drake University Board of Trustees, United States Institute of Peace Board of Directors, and University of Iowa Foundation Board of Directors. Smith died in 1997.

**MARILYN E. STAPLES** (inducted in 1991) has retired from the board of the Des Moines Housing Council, after having helped found the organization in 1978 and serving on the board from 1978 to 1993. She has continued her active involvement in city government. She has served on numerous Des Moines Planning and Zoning Commission committees, worked with city staff on writing a comprehensive plan for the year 2020, reviewed the City's Capital Improvements programs, represented Planning and Zoning on the Strategic Planning Commission and other ad hoc committees, and served on the committee to re-engineer the design of Martin Luther King Parkway. Staples has also served on the Gray's Lake Design Committee; the Southwestern Hills Neighborhood Association Park Committee; the Polk Des Moines Taxpayers Association; the Des Moines area Mayors' Select Committee on Tax Disparities; Fleur Drive Development group; and the Metropolitan Des Moines League of Women Voters Board.

**RUTH SUCKOW** (inducted in 1978) was honored in 1992, 32 years after her death and on the 100th anniversary of her birth date with *Just Suppose*, a one-woman play about her life, which was performed in seven Iowa communities where Suckow had ties. The play, written by Rebecca Christian of Dubuque and acted by Lenore Howard of Dubuque, is still performed today to special groups.

**PATRICIA CLARE SULLIVAN** (inducted in 1988) has served as president of External Affairs, Mercy Health Center of Central Iowa; president of Hillside Development Corporation; and treasurer of the Greater Des Moines Committee, an affiliate of the Greater Des Moines Chamber of Commerce Federation. Sullivan was also a member of the Des Moines Development Committee and served on the Board of Directors of Boatmen's National Bank of Des Moines. In 1991, she was named Distinguished Iowa Citizen by Mid-Iowa Boy Scouts of America and named one of six outstanding Women of Vision by the Young Women's Resource Center. In 1993, she was inducted into the Central Iowa Business Hall of Achievement. She is currently serving on the Casey's Board of Directors and Mercy Hospice Development Board.

**RUTH WILDMAN SWENSON** (inducted in 1989) has served on numerous boards, committees, and councils, including Ames International Orchestra Festival Association, Ames Town and Gown Chamber Music Association, Analysis of Social Services Evaluation Team, Central Iowa Symphony Association, Emergency Residence Project, Episcopal Parish of Ames, Healthland Senior Services Foundation, League of Women Voters of Ames, Planned Parenthood of Greater Iowa, Story County Community Dental Clinic and Elderly Outreach, United Way of Story County, University Museums, Youth & Shelter Services, ISU Archives of Women in Science and Engineering Advisory Board, ISU Department of Music Advisory Committee, ISU Liberal Arts & Sciences Dean's Advisory Council, ISU Retirees, ISU College for Seniors, and Reiman Gardens Cohorts. She has finished her term as president of the Iowa Academy of Science. More recent awards include Strong Minded Women of Iowa State, United Way Spirit Award, League of Women Voters Carrie Chapman Catt Award, and Ames *Tribune* Unsung Heroes Award.

**LOIS HATTERY TIFFANY** (inducted in 1991) is currently a distinguished professor at Iowa State University and was the chair of the Department of Botany for six years. Since her induction, she has authored numerous publications and is a member of the Department of Transportation Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management Technical Advisory Committee and the State Preserves Advisory Board. Tiffany has served on the Governor's Science Council. She received the Iowa Chapter American Association of University Women Distinguished Faculty Award, 1993, Veishea Professor of the Year award from ISU, 1993; Strong Minded Women of ISU, Carrie Chapman Catt Center, 1994; Distinguished Service Award, Iowa Academy of Science, 1994; Distinguished Professor, ISU, 1994; and Anna Pate Award from ISU Women in Science and Engineering, 1999.

**EVELYNE JOBE VILLINES** (inducted in 1994) was, in 1999, reappointed by President Bill Clinton for another five years as a member of the Committee for Purchase from Persons Who are Blind or Severely Disabled. She was honored in 2000 as "Woman of the Year" by the Metro Women's Network of Greater Des Moines.

**JEAN ADELINE MORGAN WANATEE** (inducted in 1993) died on October 15, 1996.

**MAUDE ESTHER WHITE** (inducted in 1998) died on February 23, 2003.

**CATHERINE G. WILLIAMS** (inducted in 1980) has served on the Health Facilities Council, the City of Des Moines Planning and Zoning Committee, Project Helper Board, Council of Human Services, Simpson College Task Force on Minority Student Concerns, United Way--Model Cities Allocation Committee, and the Community Relations Task Force--NAACP and Jewish Federation. She has also served as coordinator for the Iowa Commission on the Status of Women and Commission on Aging

Conference on Older Women and as project coordinator for The Links, Inc.--"I AM SOMEBODY" and High Expectations Project. Among the many honors and awards Williams has received since her induction are Social Worker of the Year for State of Iowa, 1980; University of Iowa Mark Hale Lecturer, 1980; Drake University Distinguished Alumnae Award, 1981; Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters, Simpson College, 1981; State of Iowa Volunteer Award, 1984; Morris Scholarship Fund in 1985; YWCA/Mary Louise Smith Racial Justice Award, 1990; The University of Iowa, School of Social Work Distinguished Alumnae Award, 1990; North High School (Des Moines) Distinguished Alumna Award, 1991; Iowa African-Americans Hall of Fame, 1999; P.A.C.E., 1999; and National Black Child Development Institute Award, 2000.

**CRISTINE SWANSON WILSON** (inducted in 1989) died in 1991.

**MARY E. WOOD** (inducted in 1996) died in November of 1998.



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