

From: Indiana Commission for Women [icw@subscriptions.in.gov]

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To: Stauch, Chelsea

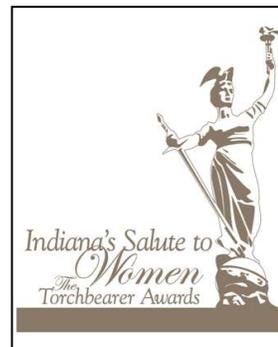
Subject: Moving Women Forward - March 2010

Indiana Commission for Women



Moving Women Forward - March 2010

Torchbearer Awards awarded to 10 Outstanding Women



The Indiana Commission for Women recognized ten women from around the state during its annual Torchbearer Awards Ceremony on Thursday, March 4, 2010. These awards honor women who have overcome obstacles and made Indiana a better place to live, work and raise a family. The 2010 Torchbearer Awards are:

- Dr. Sally Brown Bassett, Zionsville
- Janie Craig Chenault, Bedford
- Aida McCammon, Indianapolis
- Vita Harley Bridges, South Bend
- Barbara Holder, Indianapolis
- Gerry Hollingsworth Jones, Michigan City
- Crystal Meadows, Indianapolis
- Joan Uebelhoer, Fort Wayne
- Betsy Voss Lease, Nashville
- Brig. Gen. Margaret S. Washburn, Indianapolis

Joan Uebelhoer received the Lifetime Achievement Award for her continuous work to ensure that women had a voice when their rights and equality were jeopardized.

Individuals gathered at the Indiana Statehouse to pay tribute to the significant achievements being made by these remarkable women. They were activists and advocates, facilitators and innovators. They all lifted barriers, built bridges and empowered people. Every day, their commitment to excellence inspires others to re-imagine their own goals and as Torchbearers, these women set the standard as role models so that others can follow in their footsteps.

A tribute video from the Ceremony and a link to photos from the event are now posted on ICW's website at <http://www.in.gov/icw/2334.htm>.

Women's History Month

March is National Women's History Month. Its roots can be traced back to March 8, 1857, when women from New York City factories staged a protest over working conditions. The International Women's Day was first observed on March 8, 1909, in the United States and continues to be observed around the world. (<http://www.internationalwomensday.com>)

However, it was not until 1981 that Congress established National Women's History Week the second week of the month. In 1987, Congress expanded the week to a month and since then, Congress has passed a resolution and the President has issued a proclamation each year declaring March Women's History Month. (<http://www.nwhp.org/whm/history.php>)

At the 2010 Torchbearer Awards Ceremony, Governor Daniels proclaimed it Women's History Month in the State of Indiana. That proclamation reads: "It is appropriate to set aside a time in which to recognize the important role all women have played throughout our nation's history and renew our commitment to ensuring women's voices are heard and they play a critical role in resolving the challenges they face."

In addition to learning more about Women's History Month, you can also read President Obama's presidential proclamation and Governor Daniels' gubernatorial proclamation at <http://in.gov/icw/2376.htm>.

Join us in *Moving Women Forward*

The Indiana Commission for Women exists to voice the needs, concerns and viewpoints of women in Indiana so that they can become:

- better educated
- better connected to their communities
- more aware of resources and opportunities
- more engaged as leaders in resolving the challenges that women face.

There are many, many organizations throughout the State of Indiana that are working to do the same thing. It seems like every day there is a new report or an upcoming conference, meeting or other special event that sheds light on the issues affecting women or that celebrates the contributions that they are making in Indiana.

We hope that you will continue to visit our website (www.in.gov/icw) to learn about these opportunities and resources throughout the year and to connect us to other activities around the state by sending an email with details of upcoming events at icw@dwd.in.gov.

And, we encourage you to join us so that together we can make progress in *moving women forward* in the State of Indiana!

About the Indiana Commission for Women

The Indiana Commission for Women is committed to the full participation of women in all aspects of society in order to make Indiana a better place to live, work and raise a family. Our mission is to understand the needs of Indiana women and their families, and to work strategically both within government and in our communities to help bring about positive change. We work to remove the barriers that hinder women's participation by:

Increasing awareness of the state of women in Indiana and the issues they face

- Recognizing and promoting contributions that Hoosier women make to their community, state and nation
- Providing balanced analysis of public policy issues that impact women in Indiana.

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