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Wisconsin Women's Network

Bi-Weekly E-Bulletin | March 25, 2009



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WOMEN'S
network

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Be sure to visit our new and improved website:

www.wiwomensnetwork.org

Dear Elaine,

WWN's "Uncommon Fun" Program Receives Rotary Foundation Grant

Wisconsin Women's Network is pleased to announce the awarding of a \$1500 grant by the Madison Rotary Foundation in support of the expansion of *Uncommon Fun: Jumping into Wisconsin Women's History*, a joint project between WWN and [TAPIT/new works Theatre](#). *Uncommon Fun* brings women's history alive for middle school students through interactive arts activities.

→ Events from Our Members

March 25

Economic Stimulus Tour, Madison

7:00-8:30 PM, Madison Labor Temple, 1602 South Park St, Room 109. Hear from international garment workers and ethical U.S. businesses, and take action for positive change in 2009. Featuring Erlina Elizabeth Gutierrez Reyes, a Honduran garment worker and labor organizer, Maritza Vazquez, a Puerto Rican garment worker and labor organizer, and Bob Chesebro, president of Wigwam Mills, a family owned and unionized garment factory in Sheboygan. For more info: [SweatFree](#).

April 3 and 4

33rd Annual Wisconsin Women's Studies and 4th Annual LGBTQ Joint



Please consider giving to the Wisconsin Women's Network through Community Shares of Wisconsin's Workplace Giving Campaign. For more information, visit [Community Shares](#) or contact the [WWN office](#).

Conference, Madison

Lowell Hall, 610 Langdon Street. Featuring workshops and panels from women's studies and LGBTQ scholars from the University system. *Visit WWN in the exhibit hall!* To register: [Women's Studies Consortium](#).

April 16

Jennifer Baumgardner and the Rape Awareness Project, Madison
6:30 PM, Wisconsin Union. Former Ms. magazine editor, and author of *Abortion and Life*, *Look Both Ways: Bisexual Politics*, and *Grassroots: A field guide for feminist activism*, Jennifer Baumgardner will be speaking about her Rape Awareness Project and sexual assault in the United States. A reception & meet and greet with snacks and beverages to follow. Part of Sexual Assault Awareness Month. For more info: [Wisconsin Union](#).

April 28

Women's Health Day of Action, Madison

9:00 AM-3:00 PM, Inn on the Park, 22 S. Carroll St. Cost: \$25/\$10 students or limited income. Some scholarships available. The Wisconsin Alliance for Women's Health is joining with Planned Parenthood Advocates of WI and the Raising Women's Voices campaign to host the Women's Health Day of Action. Plan to attend and learn about current women's health policy issues and opportunities to speak out for women's health. The Day of Action will also include advocacy training and a morning keynote from Eesha Pandit from the Raising Women's Voices campaign. To register: [PPAWI](#).

[For a complete events calendar, click here.](#)

[News](#)

Women's Health and Reproductive Rights

[Reports surface that teens are taking cow drugs for abortions](#)

Veterinary and medical professionals in Wisconsin said Friday that they have been warned about a potentially alarming practice among the state's rural youth: teenage girls ingesting livestock drugs to cheaply and discreetly end their unwanted

pregnancies. So far, the professionals in animal and human health and the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction are treating the reports of girls inducing their own abortions with prostaglandins - drugs commonly used by cow breeders to regulate animals' heat cycles - as rumors, because no cases have been officially confirmed by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

[Federal Court Rules FDA Must Reconsider Plan B Decision](#)

On Monday, the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York rejected the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) decision to limit over-the-counter access to the emergency contraceptive Plan B to women over 18, ruling that it was based on politics and ideology, rather than science. The court ordered the agency to reconsider its decision. It also ordered the FDA to act within 30 days to extend over-the-counter access, which is currently limited to 18 year olds and over, to 17 year olds.

[Action: Tell Your Senators and Representative to Support Sex Education](#)

Senator Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ) and Representative Barbara Lee (D-CA) have reintroduced the REAL Act, Responsible Education About Life Act, S. 611 H.R. 1551 to fund programs that provide medically accurate, age-appropriate comprehensive sex education. Studies have shown that comprehensive programs that teach about both abstinence and contraception help youth to withstand the pressure to have sex too soon and sexually active youth to use protection.

[Women in the Military](#)

[Sexual Assault Permeates U.S. Armed Forces: Shocking Report On Frequent Attacks, Low Rate Of Investigation, Prosecution](#)

CBS News reports that one in three female soldiers will experience sexual assault while serving in the military, compared to one in six women in the civilian world. The Pentagon released a disturbing report on sexual abuse in the military, saying that more than 2,900 sexual assaults were reported last year, up nearly 9 percent from the year before.

Nearly two-thirds of the cases involved rape or aggravated assault. And only 292 cases resulted in a military trial.

Economic Equity

[Opinion: Obama's Budget Could do More for Single Moms](#)

President Obama says we are entering a new era of financial responsibility. Single mothers have always done more with less; they know all about that. But economic solutions rarely focus on how to help them avoid financial crisis.

[AAUW, WAGE Project Join Forces to Address Equal Pay](#)

This partnership will offer \$tart \$mart Campus Negotiation Workshops to 500 college campuses over the next three years. Over a 40-year career, college-educated women will have an average lifetime loss of roughly \$1 million. In higher-paying fields, such as law, the wage gap can result in even greater lifetime losses - and long-term significantly impact retirement and Social Security income. Nationwide, working families lose \$200 billion of income annually to the gender wage gap. And as benefits, raises, and job offers are typically based on current earnings, a fair wage at the beginning of a career can help set the stage for lifetime equity.

LGBT Rights

[US Will Sign UN Declaration on Gay Rights](#)

The Obama administration will sign the UN Declaration on Gay Rights that the Bush administration opposed in 2008. The declaration calls for the UN Human Rights Council "to request a universal abolition of the so-called 'crime of homosexuality,' of all 'sodomy laws,' and laws against so-called 'unnatural acts' in all the countries where they still exist."

[Students challenge school's gay club ruling in Florida](#)

Yulee High School students Hannah Page and Jacob Brock, represented by the American Civil Liberties Union, are suing the school board to overturn its decision banning them from forming a gay-straight alliance at their school. Yulee is about 25 miles north of Jacksonville, near the Georgia state line.

International Women

[Obama Sets New Course at the UN](#)

During the Bush administration, millions of women in poor countries were denied access to reproductive healthcare after the U.N. Population Fund lost U.S. funding on charges it was trying to promote abortion. This month, President Obama formally restored funding for the UN agency, saying funding would help not only to reduce poverty, but also improve the health of women and children and prevent HIV/AIDS.

[Opinion: Senator Kerry: Investing in 'The Girl Effect' Can Produce a Big Payoff](#)

In an op-ed for The Washington Post, Senate Foreign Relations Committee chairman John Kerry argues for investing in girls' education and women's empowerment: "Even as markets plunge, empowering women is one investment that is guaranteed to show enormous returns."

[Opinion: Women's Land Rights Can Help Battle](#)

There is a human rights dimension to the global food crisis that is frequently missed or ignored: women and their children are most likely to lack food and go hungry. And although women produce 60-80% of food in rural Africa, many nations' laws often allow male relatives to take away their land - which is why women's property rights can help reduce hunger.

[Women say pope's words undercut by discrimination they see inside church](#)

Pope Benedict XVI delivered a strong plea for women's rights during the next-to-last day of his first trip to Africa, insisting that discrimination against women "forms no part of God's plan." Several African women, however, said the pope's message is undercut by what they see as a pattern of discrimination inside the church itself.



Jobs and Volunteer Opportunities

Job Opportunities

Org: Girl Scouts of Southern Illinois

Position: Chief Executive Officer

Description: Reporting to the Council's Board of Directors, the Chief Executive Officer will bring vision, courage, confidence and character to lead in the development of a unified Council. The successful candidate will lead the integration of the newly formed Council, developing a sense of community and providing leadership to bring seamless service to the membership through and after realignment. The Chief Executive Officer will promote Girl Scout visibility and be an ambassador of Girl Scouting in the communities served by the Council. The ability to instill a sense of belonging, morale and trust with staff and volunteers is paramount. A significant amount of travel is envisioned as challenges are addressed in areas of membership development/ retention, resource development/ management, as well as community relations. This new CEO is expected to start in May 2009 to guide the councils through the process of realignment.

To apply: please email your cover letter and resume, along with salary requirements to: Robert Perodeau, Principal, Evergreen Executive Source, LLC, P.O. Box 412 Haddonfield, NJ 08033-0412, evergreen.source@att.net

Volunteer Opportunities

Posted: 7/9/08

Org: Madison SOS (Speak Out, Sister!)

Activity: event-planning, outreach, facilitation, research, design, and more!

Location: various (in Madison)

When: opportunities available weekdays (daytime and evening) and weekend afternoons

Description: Assist this grassroots, teen-led organization in creating a status report on social justice issues affecting Madison high school young women. Volunteers are needed to help plan and facilitate focus groups with teens across the city on these issues; interview girls on issues affecting their lives; distribute and collect surveys; compile and analyze qualitative and quantitative data; and assist with the design and editing of the report. A wide variety of opportunities available!

More info/sign up: Email madisonsos@yahoo.com

For Equality,

Johanna Hatch, Administrator
Wisconsin Women's Network

MISSION

The Wisconsin Women's Network is a coalition of organizations and individuals advancing the status of women in Wisconsin through communications, education, and advocacy.

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