



Wisconsin Women's Network

Bi-Weekly E-Bulletin | April 22, 2009



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women's
network

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Be sure to visit our new and improved
website:

www.wiwomensnetwork.org

→ Events from Our Members

April 23

Ahead of Her Time: A Conversation with Ambassador Jean Wilkowski, Madison

Noon-1:00 PM, 260 Bascom Hall on the UW-Madison campus. Jean Wilkowski will talk about how after earning her Masters Degree in Journalism from the UW-Madison, she launched into a career with the U.S. Foreign Service. She developed an expertise in commercial affairs and helped negotiate the expansion of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, which led to the creation of the World Trade Organization. Serving as the first woman ambassador in an African country, she helped change U.S. policy in southern Africa as Ambassador to Zambia from 1972-1979. Wilkowski has received six honorary degrees and published her autobiography, *Abroad for Her Country*, in April 2008. For more info, [Division of International Studies](#).

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



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](#).

register: [PPAWI](#).

May 2

Are You an Entrepreneur? Madison

10:00 AM - Noon. Genesis Enterprise Center, 313 West Beltline Highway. Thinking about starting a business? Decide if entrepreneurship is right for you. Participants will evaluate their skills and readiness for business ownership and discuss the advantages and disadvantages of starting a business. No Fee. Sponsored by the WI Women's Business Initiative Corporation. To register or for more information, please call (608) 257-5450.

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

[News](#)

Wisconsin Women

[Wisconsin Women's Network Mourns the Death of Midge Miller](#)

The board and staff of the Wisconsin Women's Network wish to express their condolences to the family of Midge Miller, longtime advocate for equality and former state legislator. Ms. Miller was a founding member of the National Women's Political Caucus and a longtime member of the Wisconsin Women's Network, honored by the Network individually as Stateswoman of the Year in 1990 and as part of the Wisconsin delegation to the 1977 National Women's Conference in 2002. A gutsy defender of women's rights and a role model for all, Ms. Miller passed away on April 17, 2009. For more on Ms. Miller's life and legacy, please visit [The Capital Times](#).

Women's Health and Reproductive Rights

[Action: Tell President Obama to Strike the Hyde Amendment from His Budget](#)

When abortion was first legalized in 1973, federal funds were available to low-income women who sought medically necessary abortions. But four years later, Congress enacted the Hyde Amendment, which bans federal funding for abortion in the Medicaid program except under extremely limited

circumstances. Since then, the Hyde Amendment has put millions of low-income women in dangerous situations, forcing some to continue with a pregnancy even when it jeopardizes their health.

Women in the Military

[The Combat Within: Female Veterans and PTSD Benefits](#)

Given the rate of sexual assault of female soldiers, it's time to start acknowledging that not only combat veterans suffer from post-traumatic stress. You can take action to support the [Military Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Response Act](#).

[Bill would expand health care for female veterans](#)

The Women Veterans Health Care Improvement Act of 2009 was introduced by Sen. Patty Murray, D-Wash., and would require counseling, improve women's health care programs and provide a pilot program for child care services. According to Sen. Murray, there are approximately 1.8 million female veterans who, according to VA data, are receiving "lower quality care" than men receive.

Economic Equity

[Job Losses Closing Door to Female Homeownership](#)

Heavy job losses in March are raising the specter of more missed mortgage payments. Men suffered the worst unemployment, but women's personal finances tend to be more precarious, which could put them in the middle of the next foreclosure wave.

International Women

[Opinion: Women, Extremism and Two Key States](#)

There is one thing that unites cultural conservatives throughout the world, a critique that joins Protestant fundamentalism, Islamists, Hindu Nationalists, ultra-Orthodox Jews, and ultramontane Catholics. All view women's equality and self-possession as unnatural, a violation of the established order. Yet in one society after another, we can see the absence of women's rights creating existential dangers. Overpopulation,

with all its pernicious consequences for human development and environmental sustainability; underpopulation, and its threat of economic decline and cultural stasis; sex ratio imbalances, which may someday threaten the security of Asia; even the AIDS pandemic tormenting Africa - all are tied up with gender inequality, and none can be addressed successfully without increasing women's freedoms. Women's rights must not be treated as trivial adjuncts to great questions of war and peace, poverty and development. What's at stake are not lifestyles but lives.

[Afghan Government will Revise Controversial Law, Says Karzai](#)

Afghan President Hamid Karzai announced yesterday that his government will revise a controversial law that would severely restrict women's rights by legalizing rape within marriage, among other provisions. Karzai told CNN that he was unaware of these provisions when he signed the law last month and that he has instructed "that the law be revised and any article that is not in keeping with the Afghan constitution and Islamic Sharia must be removed from this law."

[Saudi judge refuses to annul 8-year-old's marriage](#)

A Saudi judge has refused for a second time to annul a marriage between an 8-year-old girl and a 47-year-old man. The most recent ruling, in which the judge upheld his original verdict, was handed down in the Saudi city of Onaiza, where late last year the same judge rejected a petition from the girl's mother, who was seeking a divorce for her daughter.



Jobs and Volunteer Opportunities

Job Opportunities

Org: Hope House

Location: Baraboo

Position: Legal Advocate/Case Manager

Description: The Legal Advocate provides services to increase safety, explore options and resources and encourage

self-sufficiency among program participants. This position focuses on legal options and remedies available to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault and accompanies victims through civil and criminal proceedings. The Legal Advocate is not an attorney and does not provide legal advice. This position provides shelter coverage as needed and participates in the on-call rotation every 4-6 weeks. The position is based in Baraboo; travel throughout a five-county area is required. A valid WI driver's license, access to vehicle and proof of insurance coverage is required.

Qualified candidates will have a combination of education, knowledge, skills and abilities equivalent to a bachelor's degree and two years experience related to the position. A candidate with bilingual skills (English-Spanish) is preferred.

Dependable, organized, self-directed individuals with a commitment to ending violence are encouraged to apply.

To Apply: Send cover letter with salary requirements, current resume and a one page statement of your understanding of domestic violence and sexual assault to: Hope House of South Central Wisconsin, 910 8th Ave, Baraboo, WI 53913

Volunteer Opportunities

Posted: 3/26/09

Org: Friends of the Madison Public Library (FMPL)

Activity: coordination of the Friends' 3 annual booksales

Location: Madison Public Library, 201 W. Mifflin Street, Madison

When: Preceding, during and following the 3 book sales which are scheduled in the months of February, April and September

Description: Planning and preparing for each booksale, including scheduling volunteers, coordination with volunteer book sorters and library staff, money collection, arranging for disposition of leftover books and other materials, and reporting results of sale to the FMPL Board

More info/sign up: Email Carol at cchap38@aol.com

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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