

The Governor's Commission for Women



Summer/Fall 2010 Newsletter

The Governor's Commission for Women Visits Brooke Army Medical Center



"Hope" by SSG William R. Kleinedler, U.S. Army

On May 3, The Governor's Commission for Women toured the Warrior and Family Support Center at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas. The Commission is currently looking at ways to assist Texas' military. Opened in December of 2008, the 12,500 sq. ft. center houses a state of the art computer lab and business center, an entertainment room featuring big screen televisions and an extensive movie library, and a kitchen

and dining area for cooking and eating with friends, all aimed at helping wounded warriors and their families navigate the road to recovery. The center was founded on the belief that family is a crucial part of the rehabilitation process for soldiers wounded in battle. As one of the world's foremost trauma centers, Brooke Army Medical Center and the Warrior and Family Support Center patients often face recovery times of more than 12 months. With this in mind, the center works to support both soldier and family during the long and difficult process of recovery. Community events, counseling,

and affordable housing are just a few of the services offered to the families of those serving abroad or staying at the center. The Commission's nonprofit presented a donation to the Warrior and Family Support Center. For more information on the Warrior and Family support center, visit www.returningheroeshome.org.

Texas Girls Collaborative Project

In an effort to increase participation in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) careers, the Commission's nonprofit donated \$2,500 to the Texas Girls Collaborative Project's Mini-Grant Program. Grants are awarded to projects that promote informal learning techniques or conduct evaluation and assessment in STEM fields. These grants build collaboration between existing programs to address gaps in the STEM resources available to girls.

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Texas Women's Hall of Fame

The Governor's Commission for Women is pleased to announce the 2010 Texas Women's Hall of Fame honorees:



Dr. Nancy W. Dickey, M.D. was the first (and only, to date) female president of the American Medical Association (AMA). Throughout her career, she has passionately worked to reform the health care system and helped to develop the Patient's Bill of Rights during her term as AMA president. She is the first female president within the Texas A&M University System and one of the longest-standing presidents, while maintaining an active practice as a board-certified family physician. Dickey is also passionate about community service, helping to develop numerous programs aimed at improving medical care in rural areas of Texas, creating medical education and professional programs, and addressing critical needs in the medical profession.



Erma Johnson Hadley was recently elected chancellor of Tarrant County College and is the first woman and African American to serve in the position. Elected based on her outstanding service to the institution, Hadley serves as an inspiration to women and minority students throughout Texas. As chancellor, she has worked to increase communication between Tarrant County College and constituents, decrease costs of new facilities, and provide new educational programs to reach an ever-expanding pool of students. In her 41 years as a member of the Tarrant County College faculty, she has expanded programs in early college planning, adult education, and weekend courses, leading to an enrollment growth of more than 15 percent in Spring 2010.



Dr. Teresa Lozano Long founded The Long Foundation in 1999 with her husband Joe Long. The Foundation's mission is to promote education as a means to economic and social success. As the first Hispanic woman to receive a Doctorate degree from The University of Texas at Austin in Health & Physical Education, Long is dedicated to bringing educational opportunities to the Hispanic community through scholarships, endowments, and research grants. The Long Foundation also supports programs for the visual and performing arts, with the most notable example being the Long Center for the Performing Arts in Austin, Texas.



Judy Castle Scott helped establish and is Director of the American Foundation for the Blind Center on Vision Loss in Dallas and Chair of the Texas Governor's Committee on People with Disabilities. Blind since childhood, Scott has more than 40 years experience working for those affected by aging and vision loss. An active proponent for the availability of full access to information and the environment for people who are blind or visually impaired, she serves on more than 10 committees and boards dedicated to enriching the lives of people with disabilities. She was a leader in establishing the National Agenda on Aging and Vision Loss and is a member of the Elderly Committee of the World Blind Union. Her efforts helped to make the DFW International Airport Terminal D, Cowboy Stadium and American Airlines Center more accessible for people with all disabilities. Her life long passion is to expand possibilities for people with vision loss.



The Honorable Pamela Pitzer Willeford currently chairs the Laura Bush Foundation for America's Libraries and serves as Vice Chair of the Texas Governor's Mansion Restoration Fund. A former Ambassador to Switzerland and the Principality of Liechtenstein, her diplomacy and judgment also make her a savvy leader. She served as the 2009 president of the "Texas Exes" alumni association for The University of Texas and was president of the Junior League of Austin. She also serves as a partner in her family's drilling company in Breckenridge, Texas.

Please join us at 1:30 p.m. September 13, 2010 at Texas Woman's University in Denton, Texas to honor these outstanding women as they join the Texas Women's Hall of Fame. There is no cost to attend, but we do require an RSVP as seating is limited. Please contact women@governor.state.tx.us if you would like to receive an invitation.

The National Association of Commissions for Women Conference



Carol Peterson and Lesley Guthrie before a briefing by the White House Council on Women and Girls.

Commission Chair Carol Peterson and Executive Director Lesley Guthrie attended the 40th annual National Association of Commissions for Women conference July 22-25 in Rockville, Maryland. Conference members attended a briefing from the White House Council on Women and Girls with Executive Director Tina Chen, a luncheon in the U.S. Capitol Visitor Center hosted by Congresswoman Donna Edwards of Maryland, and were addressed by Sara Manzano-Diaz, Director of the Department of Labor Women's Bureau. The Fort Worth Commission for Women received an Achievement Award for their Synergy 2009: Infant Mortality in Fort Worth and Tarrant County initiative. Executive Director Lesley Guthrie was re-elected to the NACW Board of Directors. The National Association of Commissions for Women is dedicated to increasing the effectiveness of member commissions and serving as a national voice for state, county, and local women's organizations. The annual conference features a series of prominent women speakers and workshops on various women's issues and commission initiatives.



Carol Peterson and Lesley Guthrie with Fort Worth Commission for Women members Ann Farley-Parker and Chris Kalish.

Expanding Your Horizons



The Governor's Commission for Women was a proud sponsor of Expanding Your Horizons (EYH). EYH is a one day program designed to provide Central Texas girls, 4th through 8th grade with hands-on experience in math, science and technology. Sponsored by Austin nonprofit Girlstart, the April 17, 2010 event featured workshops led by professional women in STEM careers, including Elizabeth Avellán, vice president of Troublemaker Studios. This year, EYH had a record breaking attendance of 453 girls, 67 percent of whom identified themselves as minorities. Thanks to the EYH sponsors, 273 scholarships were also provided to girls from rural and underserved communities.

Texas Conference for Women



The Texas Conference for Women is hosted by Governor Rick Perry and First Lady Anita Perry. This year, the conference will be November 10 at the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston, Texas. This year the conference will feature inspirational keynotes from presidential historian Doris Kearns Goodwin, TV's Judge Glenda Hatchett, Leigh Anne Tuohy from "The Blind Side" and Dr. Jennifer Arnold – as . Conference workshops will focus on topics such as health, small business, financial management, networking and professional development. More than 40,000 women have attended the conference over the years. For more information or to register, please visit www.txconferenceforwomen.org.

Important Dates



September 13, 2010 - Texas Women's Hall of Fame induction ceremony at Texas Woman's University in Denton, Texas.

September 15, 2010 - The Outstanding Women in Texas Government Awards at The University of Texas Frank Erwin Center in Austin, Texas.

November 10, 2010 - Texas Conference for Women at the George R. Brown Convention Center, Houston, Texas.

March 10, 2010 – The Governor's Commission for Women hosts a luncheon honoring female legislators at the Sheraton Austin Hotel at the Capitol in Austin, Texas.

Texas Governor's Commission for Women 2009-2011

Carol Peterson
Chair, Alpine

Carmen Pagan
Vice Chair, McAllen

Claudia Abney
Marshall

Gina Bridwell
Abilene

Stephanie Cavender
San Antonio

Cris Graham
Fredericksburg

Cynthia Jenkins
Irving

Lisa Lucero
Austin

Becky McKinley
Amarillo

Tresa Rockwell
Austin

Connie Weeks
Austin

Daisy White
Houston

Outstanding Women in Texas Government Awards

September 15, 2010 - 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

The Outstanding Women in Texas Government Awards was created by the State Agency Council in 1984 to honor women in state government for their exceptional achievements and service to the State of Texas. Nominated by state agency directors and selected by an independent committee, more than 80 women have been recognized since the award's inception. This year, the ceremony and luncheon will be held in the Lone Star Ballroom at The University of Texas Frank Erwin Center. Justice Eva Guzman, the first Hispanic woman appointed to the Texas Supreme Court, will give the keynote speech.

The 2010 winners are:

- Anna Michele Bobadilla, *Outstanding Community Involvement*
- Nicole Verver, *Outstanding Contribution*
- Kathy Perkins, *Outstanding Professional Development*
- Eugenie S. Kleinerman, M.D., *Outstanding Management*

If you would like to receive more information about the event, please contact Martha Gussoni at mgus@tfsc.state.tx.us. Tickets to the event are \$25. Sponsorship opportunities are also still available.

Governor's Commission for Women

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The Governor's Commission for women is a division of the Texas Governor's Office, designed to promote opportunities for Texas women through outreach, education, research and referral services.

Women's Commission Internship: If you would like to serve as an intern for the Governor's Commission for Women, email women@governor.state.tx.us or go to <http://governor.state.tx.us/employment/fellowships> for more information.

If you have received this newsletter from a friend or colleague and would like to receive future issues of the Governor's Commission for Women e-newsletter, email: women@governor.state.tx.us.

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