

OCCSW

OKALOOSA COUNTY

COMMISSION ON

THE STATUS OF WOMEN

For Immediate Release

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WOMEN'S WALL OF HONOR NOMINATIONS DUE APRIL 15, 2010

The Okaloosa County Commission on the Status of Women (OCCSW) is taking nominations for the 2010 Women's Wall of Honor. The nominations are due April 15th. Each year, the OCCSW holds a ceremony to honor special women in the county who have contributed to the well-being of children, families and the citizens of our community. This year, the ceremony to honor the nominees will be held at 10:00 AM on Tuesday, May 4th, in the community room in the administration building at the University of West Florida Emerald Coast, Fort Walton Beach Campus.

The honorees' names are placed on a plaque located in the library at the Fort Walton Beach campus of the University of West Florida with a nearby book containing a biographical page for each woman.

"Women in our community have made tremendous contributions to our county's growth, health, education, welfare and culture," says Lois Hoyt, chair of the OCCSW. "This is a great opportunity for family members, co-workers and employers to honor the women in their lives that contribute so much by bringing these dedicated everyday women to our citizens' attention."

The nomination form and more information can be found at <http://www.occsww.org/woh.htm>. The form, a short paragraph (100 words or less) about the woman you wish to honor, her photo and a \$100 donation to the OCCSW should be submitted to the Okaloosa County Commission on the Status

of Women, Post Office Box 681, Niceville, Florida 32588. Or for more information and a nomination form, contact Shirley Pigott at 651-3095 or shirleypigott@cox.net.

In 2009, 11 women were honored including Sharilyn Darnell, Jeri M. Ghosh, Nancy Grigsby, Martha Miller, Shirley Pigott, Kimberly Quartel, Lisa Jo Spencer, Carol Stearns, Joyce Stepp-Lathrop, Marijo Strauss and Marilyn Joan Young.

The Okaloosa County Commission on the Status of Women (OCCSW) was established by the Board of County Commissioners in 1995 for the purpose of recognizing and honoring women who have made significant contributions to the improvement of women and citizens of Okaloosa County. The OCCSW membership is composed of appointments by county commissioners and representatives of various women's organizations. Each year they take nominations for the Okaloosa County Women's Hall of Fame, conduct special activities during Women's History Month, provide a speakers bureau addressing various women's issues, and partner with Jobs Plus and the Workforce Development board in the "Suit Up to Move Up" program to provide appropriate clothing for ladies trying to get off welfare and into the workforce. For more information, contact Lois Hoyt, lahoyt@cox.net or visit the organization's website, www.occsww.org.

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