Yasmin Aguilar :: Lolita Anastasio :: Dr. Teresa Boucher
:: Janelle Brown :: Kathleen Craven :: Dr. Sue Chew
:: Judy Cross :: Carol Denise Dawson :: Betsy Dunklin
:: Lynn Gabriel :: Maria Gonzalez Mabbutt :: Dr.
Christine Hahn :: Dr. Ginna Hustig :: Vicky Irving ::
Lori Joyce :: Jane Kinn Buser :: Dr. Suzanne McCorkle
:: Pam Parker :: Anne Pasley-Stuart :: Beverly Pressman
:: Pat Pyke :: Carolyn Rahn :: Wanda Lynn Riley ::
Fatma Slaton :: Maxine Sower Randall :: Kelly Spafford.
:: Dr. Valerie Steffen :: Winnie Tong :: Christina Van Tol
Yasmin Aguilar

By Crystal Young. Crystal is a senior at Boise State University, majoring in English with an emphasis in writing.

There is a quiet yet powerful reserve about Yasmin Aguilar. She is passionate, yet calm, and she is dedicated. There’s not much, not even a pecky case of pneumonia that can keep her from the job she adores.

Yasmin is a case manager for the Refugee Resettlement Program located in Boise. As a case manager, she is involved with nearly every aspect of helping refugees and their families get situated in a new, life-changing environment. Some of her duties include packing up individuals from the airport, finding adequate housing or host families, assisting with living needs, enrolling refugees in classes, and serving as a translator.

Her job entails a great amount of work, but it doesn’t stop there. Underneath her quiet reserve, Yasmin pulls from a strength within her that sets her apart from most people. She is a natural leader. She isn’t someone who talks about herself easily; she is humble, more apt to let someone else speak on her behalf. Denise and Jay VanHouten, close friends of hers, note that she “goes beyond what her job entails; she takes care of them,” regarding the refugees she helps. Jay adds, "She always has a positive outlook; she’s passionate about what she does.

Yasmin doesn’t simply work nine to nine jobs; she is very much involved with the people she supports. She often makes house calls, visiting with her clients, offering encouragement and friendship. On any given day, she is receiving new families, making phone calls, or out buying food and clothes for people in need often with little regard to her own needs.

In November of 2002, Yasmin was about to embark on a trip to Mexico to visit with her husband’s relatives for the Thanksgiving holiday. She was excited to get away for a while, spending time with her husband and family. While away, she became seriously ill with pneumonia. However, when she arrived back, she was “down” for only a short time. When she heard that there was a new refugee family coming to Boise, she got out of bed and went to work. She pulled from her inner strength and found ways to help this family so they would not feel alone and abandoned.

Yasmin works hard not only to assist individual families, but also to reach out to the existing Boise community members in efforts to educate them about refugee services and needs. Many times she encounters fear and misconceptions from people when they see refugees moving here, especially refugees from war torn countries. While it is sometimes a long, bumpy road to improvement, Yasmin has made it her ambition to educate Idaho communities and speak to organizations on behalf of the refugee population. She has been recognized numerous times and awarded for her efforts.

Yasmin speaks five languages: Persian, Pashto, Urdu, and Czech. She is learning Spanish, Russian, and Arabic. Not bad for someone as young as Yasmin. She is originally from Kundahar, the one-time capital of Afghanistan, but later moved, graduating in the summer of 1999 from a college in the Czech Republic. As she worked to become a doctor, she helped to establish her residency in Afghanistan. However by May 1999, the war was in full progress, leaving her no choice but to flee the country to Pakistan with her family. She experienced severe restrictions set forth on women by the Taliban.

Women were forced to cover their entire bodies, including their faces with thick veils. Women could no longer leave their houses without a male relative escorting them, and they were no longer able to work or seek the same opportunities offered to men. There was a time when Yasmin had to move form place-to-place, traveling forty-two hours on a train without food or restrooms to get to her uncle’s house. The First International Islamic Relief Organization provided some assistance for those individuals in need. In a desperate time for her country, Yasmin pressed on.

Yasmin worked as a general physician until 1999, she then received a position as community development coordinator at Mercy Corp. International, an American non-profit organization. During the next few years, she wrote a book reflecting on, educating, and giving insight into the plight of the Muslim people; before she, too, became a refugee of war in September 2000. Her move to the United States would prove to be successful, but not without great sorrow as she left her family behind.

Yasmin has experienced conflict that most people could never fathom. However, she has dealt with adversity with resourcefulness and perseverance: “No matter how long the night is, the day is coming.”

Among her strengths she notes honesty, and a hard working nature, which her friends are quick to agree with, adding her open and vulnerable personality as strong attributes. Always thankful and full of love, Yasmin is quick to note, “My husband (Luis) has been a source of strength for me.”

Yasmin’s eyes sparkle like two crystals when she speaks of Luis, her greatest joy. She has only been married for a short amount of time, but it is no secret he ranks high on her priority list. She makes no apologies for working and loving so much; she builds a meaningful community for the refugees and the people around her, supporting their growth. Through her tireless effort, Yasmin improves the lives of many people, taking from her own life experiences and giving something positive back. She is a contributor to humanity and a woman always moving forward.

Dr. Christine Hahn

By Angela Jones. Angela is a senior at Boise State University, majoring in English and psychology with a minor in women’s studies. She is a Girl Scout leader and a team dancer.

Winding through a cubicule maze, ducking in and out of walled dividers, I finally came to a small office, the door ajar. Inside was a modest workspace, papers and open files strewn about a busy desk, bookshelves lining the walls, packed with reference materials and volumes of medical literature, and a picturesquely view of the Boise landscape as seen from the fourth floor of a downtown office building. This is where I found Dr. Christine Hahn.

Christine works for the Division of Health through the Department of Health and Welfare as the Idaho State Epidemiologist. She tracks infectious diseases in the state such as salmonella and E. coli and attempts to prepare for and control outbreaks.

“Told me I picked this field because it is always changing,” says Hahn. “There is always something new and different to research within my field.”

Her office desk is a model for those interested in studying infectious diseases. Her computer is linked to an email account that constantly receives reports of outbreaks. This email account is also a way to contact Christine and other health professionals about epidemics such as anthrax.

“Idahoans have been fortunate,” said Hahn, “to have a free clinic here in Boise.”

For Christine, however, the most rewarding times have been when she has volunteered. She volunteered with street kids in Tanzania at a clinic that provided a safe environment for youth and with St. John’s free clinic here in Boise. “After years and years of education it feels good to give something back,” Christine explained.

“Dr. Hahn has proven over and over again that she can provide needed information on health issues, provide prevention messages, and leave us all with the knowledge needed to calm our fears,” commented friend and coworker Ginger Floerchner-Franks. “She is always honest, providing known facts and ending with a message of reason to calm our fears.”
Dr. Valerie J. Steffen

By Pat Pyke: Pat is a public relations officer at Boise State. She earned a bachelor of science degree in engineering from Duke University and a master's degree in journalism from the University of California at Berkeley.

Entrepreneur Dr. Valerie Steffen has built a company where ethical standards are as integral to the business plan as making a profit. Valerie, a former psychology professor who taught at two universities, is the president and founder of 4-year-old Strategic Intelligence Inc., a marketing research firm that applies principles of social psychology to assess public opinion, attitudes and consumer behavior, with a strong emphasis in health-related fields.

An avid runner, Valerie moves with athletic gracefulness, even when dressed in a trim business suit and exudes a calm energy as she speaks about her deliberate intention to build a socially responsible business.

"Businesses really do differ dramatically in the values they embody, in the courses they choose," she said. "When you're building a business, you have the opportunity to forge something that looks like the best of what you would like to be, what you would like to give to society."

In only four years, Valerie has built a strong client base, been named a finalist for the Idaho Business Review/Women's Business Center Woman Entrepreneur of the Year award, and received recognition from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for groundbreaking marketing research on tobacco use by teens. She has done all this and more while donating 15 to 20 percent of her time for non-profit causes, particularly organizations that assist people at society's margins.

Values instilled in childhood took root as she crafted her business philosophy. "I grew up knowing that I was supposed to contribute, that I was supposed to do something that made the world better. My parents were committed to social justice. I grew up in a time when those themes of social justice were center front — in the women's movement and in the civil rights movement," she said.

One organization that has benefited from her skill at preparing numerical data, charts and graphs to express the links between people's attitudes, intentions and behaviors is the Girl Scouts. For the Silver Sage Council, a region which covers southern Idaho, Oregon as far west as Bend and parts of Nevada, Valerie recently designed a project to help understand the needs and desires of girls, their parents and volunteers involved with Girl Scouts. She recruited about 10 other area professionals to help with the project, including Ginger Floerchinger-Franks, a program manager at Idaho Health and Welfare's Bureau of Health Promotion.

"To me it is amazing," Ginger said. "Here is someone on her own time putting together this huge research project that is going to guide the Girl Scouts for the next 10 years. It was a huge project and it was done right."

Ginger and Valerie met when Strategic Intelligence worked on a project to evaluate a media campaign aimed at raising awareness about a subject long taboo in Idaho — child sexual abuse. Ginger said Valerie's work evaluating the campaign was revolutionary. "The Centers for Disease Control is looking at that campaign as a national model."

"Valerie has a wonderful reputation... When people talk about research companies, hers always comes up in the top three for four," said Ginger.

Despite those accomplishments, Valerie never intended to become a businesswoman. After growing up with the never-ending demands of her parents' landscaping and nursery business, Valerie had resolved not to own a small business. "No way," she said. "I had always thought I'd be a college professor." And she did just that, earning a Ph.D. in psychology from Purdue University then going on to teach at Kent State University in Ohio, Wabash College in Indiana and the University of Idaho.

But the business seed had been planted early in life, and it germinated years later when conditions were ripe to start her own business. After teaching for about 10 years, she no longer found the university atmosphere professionally or financially fulfilling as she wanted. She had always enjoyed research, so she and her husband, Lou Sternberg, moved to Boise where she took a job with a market research firm and eventually decided to strike out on her own.

Although starting a new business, especially on the cusp of an economic recession, was not easy, Valerie feels her career change was the right decision. "I'm probably a whole lot happier being an entrepreneur," she said, despite the long work hours. And she still has opportunities to engage in one of her favorite aspects of being a professor — guiding and mentoring student interns.

Two years ago, when Strategic Intelligence Inc. was ready to expand, she interviewed several researchers and then hired the best candidate, her husband Lou. They share a home/office in east Boise decorated with paintings, sculpture and pottery made by regional artists, another of their purposeful ways to connect with their community.

Valerie's life pursuits express her love of art, her passion for social issues and her enjoyment of lifelong education and research. "I think the world of business can be a terrific place to express yourself and your values and have fun," she said. "I've never had so much fun."

Wanda Lynn Riley

By Melissa Starr: Melissa is a nontraditional student double-majoring in sociology with minors in women's studies and gerontology and communications (English/journalism emphasis). She is also working toward a certificate in dispute resolution.

"Obstacles are not barriers, they are stepping stones."

As the Director of Risk Management and Audit Services at Boise State University, Wanda Lynn Riley sets an example for others in both her professional and personal life to examine obstacles as opportunities. Referred to by some as a "force of nature," Wanda
Lynn possesses a "boundless energy" to serve others in her position at Boise State as well as in the community: "...her unyielding demand for high quality...sets standards we would all do well to follow." This high praise resounds in her nomination and is evident to all who know her.

Wanda Lynn's excellent management and organizational skills were apparent at a very young age. As soon as she could count, she took on the task of sorting checks for her father as he worked at bookkeeping. When kindergarten classmates wanted to have a party, Wanda Lynn demonstrated her natural inclination to lead people and coordinate resources by first making a list of what would be needed, and then collecting each person's voluntary contribution to fund the effort. When her surprised mother found out, she ordered her daughter to return each child's money - if she wanted to have a party, all she had to do was say so.

Wanda Lynn Riley was the first of two daughters born to parents who each demonstrated excellent work ethics, yet were careful to make themselves available to their children as much as possible. Their children fondly remember open family communication, dinners together, and the support they received. Her mother, a registered nurse with a graduate degree, greatly influenced Wanda Lynn's development as a giving person, with a high regard for themselves. The board of Christian Education as the chair of leadership and has been secretary of the board since 1999, and has been secretary of the board since 2000.

According to Les Bock, Executive Director of the Idaho Human Rights Education Center, "If there is anyone who is making a difference in Idaho, it is Wanda Lynn. She is a treasure. The Center is very fortunate to have her on the Board, and the Boise community is very fortunate to have her as one of its members. As we planned the events for the dedication of the Idaho Anne Frank Human Rights Memorial, I desperately needed her experience, determination, and leadership in order to make those events happen. She committed herself without hesitation. I could not have asked for more."

Wanda Lynn has served as co-chair for the Idaho Inclusiveness Symposium, has served as a member of the steering committee for the Gene Harris Jazz Festival, and was a primary organizer of the Idaho Soul Food Extravaganza in 1998. On behalf of the Idaho Black History Museum, she also organized Boise’s first Juneteenth Celebration in July Davis Park in June 2001 after the State of Idaho became the fifth state in the nation to officially recognize the holiday, a celebration that marks the historical end to slavery in America.

Wanda Lynn is a "mover and a shaker at her church, teaching Sunday school, staying up late to make outfits for the kid's dance group and choreographing dances," notes her nominator. She has also served on the board of Christian Education as the chair of leadership development as well as the Usher Board. Wanda Lynn seems to be everywhere at once, but maintains a sense of poise that reflects a strong sense of self and excellent organizational skills. As busy as she is, one could never tell by her attitude and approach to life. She radiates a grounded and calm demeanor; just as an old church hymn reminds us, her feet are firmly "planted by the water."

At Boise State University, Wanda Lynn also serves as an advisor to the Black Student Alliance and is a member of the Cultural and Ethnic Diversity Board. Her involvement with "Black to the Future," a minority recruitment program sponsored by the New Student Information Center, has exposed her to many opportunities to inspire greatness in many young African American students in the community.

In her position as Director of Risk Management and Audit Services, Wanda Lynn is on-call around the clock. Her formal objective is to "effectively protect the university's assets, which include human, financial, and physical resources from the consequences of loss." According to her nominators, she is highly respected for her insight and support when it comes to identifying problems on the job. "When there are difficult, but necessary decisions that must be made, Wanda Lynn does not evade responsibility. She approaches her responsibilities with sensitivity and respect.

On a personal note, Wanda Lynn is known as a "fabulous friend," who consistently and warmly checks in on the well-being of those around her. One of her nominators, a Boise State student, warmly recounts that she first met Wanda Lynn through her attendance as a high school student at "Black to the Future."

"From then on, I've always looked up to her. Her ability to do a zillion and one things and do each thing impeccably well, her unwavering confidence and wisdom and absolute competence and mastery of the skills required in her profession, her humanity and strong faith in God. She has always been an inspiration to me. She is truly deserving of this honor."

Dr. Teresa Boucher

By Crystal Young

Crystal is a senior at Boise State University, majoring in English with an emphasis in writing.

"Plumber's daughter earns Ph.D. at Princeton!" Teresa Boucher quips this alliterative lead, providing a little humor and a glimpse of what she's all about: professor, department chair, wife, mother, and survivor.

Teresa's voice is quiet, yet clear when she speaks. She appears relaxed and confident in her office chair, glancing every so often towards a stuffed dragon puppet sitting near her desk. She remarks that the dragon, which is female, "helps me get through some of the more stressfull moments." It's a coping technique, and a unique one at that.

Teresa is an accomplished academic, serving as associate professor of Spanish, chair of the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, and the only female chair in the College of Arts and Sciences at Boise State University. She speaks three languages fluently: English, French, and Spanish, and has juggled work and family expertly.

As a professor, Teresa teaches upper-division literature and culture courses on Spain - most recently a senior seminar entitled "Writing and Repression in Post Civil War Spain." The course focuses on literary production under the censorship of Franco's dictatorship. In this capstone course for Spanish majors, she guides students through four drafts of a major research paper and a presentation in Spanish. The seminar topic is closely related to her own field of scholarly research and publication.

Teresa was raised in a working class family and is a first generation college graduate. She always wanted to go to college and become a teacher, having five older sisters who were there ahead of her. Teresa's parents were not wealthy by any means. They told their children they wouldn't finance college for any of them in order to be fair to all of them. She comments, "I am the product of financial aid. A lot of generous alumni donated the scholarship money that financed my education."

Teresa attended a Catholic elementary school, where at the tender age of six, she assumed that one had to be a nun in order to become a teacher. Yet, it was a nun who gave Teresa her first opportunity to teach, as a sixth grader. Teresa taught first graders, "I've always been an inspiration to me. She is truly deserving of this honor."

When asked about her dual role as faculty member and administrator, she pointed out the simple difference between the two. "As a professor, you focus on teaching, research, and service," she says. "However, as a department chair, you are an administrator -- you need to make decisions for all of the students. The focus is on the students, not just your own." Teresa is the mother of two children: Renaud, 10, her "dissertation baby," and a three-year-old, her "tenure baby." She completed the dissertation, earned tenure five years later, and was then elected department chair. She began her career at Boise State in a young and blossoming language department and recalls the experience as both exciting and draining.

Her education is vast and impressive. She earned her B.A. magna cum laude with high honors in Spanish from Dartmouth College. She holds three master's degrees - two in Spanish and one in French - and studied abroad on four occasions in Spain and in France. Her academic career led her to Princeton University where she earned her Ph.D. in romance languages and literature. Her academic success is admirable, her perseverance unwavering.

When asked about her dual role as faculty member and administrator, she pointed out the simple difference between the two. "As a professor, you focus on teaching, research, and service," she says. However, as a department chair, you are an administrator -- you need to make decisions for all of the students. The focus is on the students, not just your own.

The shift in duties could be complicated for some, but not for Teresa. She has a genuine passion for what she does in both roles, taking into account the perspective of students, faculty members, and administrators. "You have to build momentum, move things forward, make the most of the resources you have."

Accomplished in her teaching career, Teresa is extremely dedicated to her family as well. Teresa's love of music led her to her husband, whom she met quite by accident when he was playing the piano in a residence hall at Dartmouth. Twenty years later, they have two children and nine diplomas between them. She speaks of her family openly and lovingly, and is quick to point out their pictures, beaming at the sight of them.

Her husband, Will Browning, is also her colleague, an associate professor of French in her department. Teresa admits that it is a delicate balance of an academic couple in the same department. In the next breath, she teases that when she was elected chair, the agreement was that her spouse would take over the cooking at home. She smiles as she leans back in her office chair, a sparkle in her eye as she gazes at her photos. You might say Teresa is a wonder woman, and you would be right; nonetheless, it has been a long struggle through the years for her.

In meeting with Teresa, there is silent but immediate strength exuding from her that only comes from dealing with adversity and challenge. She is open and forthright in mentioning her status as a survivor of child sexual abuse, sharing details of her experience. However, that openness was hard earned. It would be over two decades before she could find the words to express to her husband and family the trauma in her life.

"It took 22 years, twenty-two hundred miles, and tenure to begin to address the trauma of the abuse," Teresa says. "This article helped me get the help I needed. It would all be worthwhile."

She glances around her office, eyeing her dragon again with a peaceful expression on her face. With her small hands twiddling about, she directs my attention to three items in her office with
personal significance – several diplomas neatly hung in a row, a quilt draped on the wall, and a photograph of the cast of a Boise State theatre production.

Pointing to each she says, "The diplomas remind me that I have enough degrees and education to be able to solve problems, but not every problem can be solved with your mind. The quilt reminds me that some problems can only be addressed with your heart and soul. And, the cast picture reminds me that all good productions are a group effort – you don’t have to do it all alone." 

Janelle Brown, Kathleen Craven, Pat Pyke

Promoting Boise State University, serving the community, inspiring students, parenting teen-agers, and overcoming life challenges. Accomplishing all this might seem overwhelming for one person, but by working as a team, three women are doing all of this and more.

Janelle Brown, Kathleen Craven and Pat Pyke are proof that it’s possible for women in the workplace to support each other professionally and also be close friends. As public information officers in the university’s Office of News Services, they work with the media, faculty, students and the public to promote the news, events and people at Boise State.

In many respects, Kathleen. Janelle and Pat are “everywoman,” multi-tasking behind the scenes to keep work and home fronts running smoothly. They seldom stand in the spotlight. In fact, all three penned stories on other outstanding women for this issue of “Women Making History.” Their colleague, interim News Services director Bob Evanscho, nominated them because, in his words, “they are an incredible, hard-working team.”

According to Evanscho, the threesome exemplifies how co-workers with different backgrounds, political persuasions and interests can work together to foster cooperation and productivity in the workplace. “They are wonderful colleagues – devoted wives and mothers, highly valued employees and exemplary professionals,” writes Evanscho. “All three are highly skilled journalists and PR professionals that continually put Boise State in the most positive, light possible on a daily basis.”

Kathleen, Janelle and Pat work in a small office that has unofficially and beyond their colleague, interim News Services director Bob Evanscho, responsibilities with the ballroom dancing; theater and outdoor activities team. “They seldom stand in the limelight,” says Pat. “They are an incredible, hard-working team.”

With two adult children and two teen-agers still at home, Kathleen sometimes struggles with balancing family, work and church responsibilities with the ballroom dancing, theater and outdoor activities she loves. A reporter for 10 years, many of them also spent at the Statesman, Kathleen traded that career for one that would allow her more flexibility. It was also important that her new job offer a creative writing outlet. Boise State fit the bill in many ways.

Working at a daily newspaper offered the excitement that comes with being at the forefront of breaking news, but it also meant being on-call and away from home, and too often involved stories that were heartbreaking or controversial. Her Boise State job allows her a more positive outlook, and gives her the opportunity to meet interesting people working to make positive changes in the community and beyond.

"Egos don’t get in the way. And the competition is just not there," says Pat. "The three women tested the strength of their bonds last year when Pat was diagnosed with breast cancer. Treating cancer can require a physically exhausting regimen. At 5-foot 2-inches, Pat may not seem like a formidable opponent, but she attacked the disease with the same determination she showed in her years as a defense woman on a traveling ice hockey team. While undergoing chemotherapy and radiation treatments, Pat rode her mountain bicycle almost daily in Boise’s rugged foothills, and signed up people to pledge donations to cancer research for each mile she rode."

"We faced this cancer as a team," says Pat. "Kathleen pitched in to cover my loose ends at work and Janelle joined me on the bike trails. The positive energy we share not only contributed to my healing, it also makes our office a great work environment.

With experience in television news, print journalism and marketing, this engineer-turned-journalist loves her job at Boise State. She especially enjoys penning stories detailing the energy and life behind the campus events, from cultural festivals and music concerts to AIDS awareness.

Janelle is a former Idaho Statesman reporter and editor who spent 20 years at newspapers throughout the West before coming to Boise State. An avid skier, mountain bicyclist and cellist with the Meridian Symphony, Janelle is also the mother of two adopted Korean teen-agers. She works hard to juggle her career, her many outside interests, and her family.

"It helps enormously to be in a workplace that is supportive," Janelle says. "There’s very little energy spent here on office politics, and that allows us to focus our energy on the work at hand.”

Writing, editing and publishing FOCUS magazine is just one example of how the News Services staff works together. Janelle says, the award-winning magazine, published three times each year, includes in-depth articles and news items about the university and the larger community. “We brainstorm ideas, edit and critique each other’s articles and then pull together to write headlines and get the magazine out by deadline,” Janelle says. “It’s a fun and exciting part of my job, in large part because of the ‘can-do’ attitude of my colleagues.”

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"Egos don’t get in the way. And the competition is just not there."
"I feel like I can make a difference by educating the community about the research and events that take place here on campus," she says. "The university offers a wealth of information and services that most people aren't aware of."

While Kathleen, Pat, and Janelle are adept at publicizing others' accomplishments, they feel a bit uncomfortable being in the spotlight themselves. If anything, they hope their inclusion in "Women Making History" will underscore the value of teamwork, and encourage others to create supportive workplaces. "Our sum is definitely greater than our three parts," Janelle says.

Carol Denise Dawson

By Melissa Starr: Melissa is a nontraditional student double-majoring in sociology with minors in women's studies and gerontology and communications (English/Journalism emphasis). She is also working toward a certificate in dispute resolution.

As an employee of Xerox Corporation in Washington, D.C., the thought of moving to Idaho was the last thing on Carol Dawson's mind until she received an email from a friend on the west coast four years ago. A "headhunter" was looking for minority MBA graduates to diversify staff and goals in several companies. With some encouragement, self-reflection and examination, Carol decided to investigate the possibility of a job opening at Hewlett-Packard Corp in Boise.

Carol declined several times, since she wasn't even sure where Boise was located on the map. Yet, since she'd been working for the same company for her entire career, Carol was curious about what another company could offer, and thought an interview would be enlightening if nothing else. After much persistence on the part of the recruiter and his manager, she took the test and scheduled an interview. It wasn't until just before her return flight to Washington, D.C., that she thought to herself, "I think I'm moving to Idaho." It turned out to be the best choice when things started rolling downhill at Xerox a year later.

In bigger cities like D.C. and Los Angeles where Carol was born and raised, diversity could easily be taken for granted as many other people promoted cultural awareness. However, as an Idahoan, she felt compelled to be involved. It took moving to Idaho for Carol to realize that having a voice is not the same as using it. For example, Carol first noticed a drive to participate in the Martin Luther King Jr. march and rally on the Capitol steps in Boise and felt responsible for speaking out.

Most recently, Carol became active in the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in Idaho as chairperson of the fundraising committee. The 2002 Freedom Fund Banquet, an annual black tie fundraiser to benefit the NAACP, was a success as the organization more than doubled its goal to increase its numbers two-fold from 2001. Carol's fundraising efforts were instrumental in accomplishing that goal. Carol prompted community and businesses to show their support by sponsoring tables and by donating several silent auction items ranging in value from $50 to about $6,000.

Since the time Carol and her husband Wade - whom she met in Idaho - decided to get involved, Wade has been elected President and membership has increased tenfold. More funds have been raised since their first involvement in 1998. Some strategic programs funded by the Boise NAACP include the National Call to Education Program and the Prison Project: The National Call to Education addresses fair testing within the school districts and ensures that diverse candidates are given equal access in the education system. The Prison Project addresses accessibility forarcerated, providing rehabilitative opportunities. This effort improves the odds that prisoners will be contributing citizens upon their release.

Both of these projects require legislation to be passed and the Boise NAACP has been working diligently with state officials, state institutions and agencies to get the acts passed into law. Though the acts haven't yet reached the legislature, they are expected to pass in 2003.

Carol's first introduction to fundraising was a board membership at Howard University Hospital, where she became part of the fundraising committee. Proceeds from the annual fundraising event went toward the development of a museum depicting history associated with the hospital. Many prominent medical professionals graduated from Howard University, and the museum provided the means to give something back to the community. Carol's talents in attracting benefactors, creating events, and networking are being put to good use as a board member of the Idaho Black History Museum.

Committed and resourceful, Carol offers the following advice that she has learned along the way. "If I can't profess experience, I won't claim it, if I don't try anyway. The only failure in life is not trying." On Sundays at 5 p.m., Carol and Wade co-host a radio talk show on KIDO. The couple also co-host a half-hour variety talk show on Public Access Television (Channel 11) on Mondays at 8:00 p.m., which launched November 4th, 2002. The show presents interesting topics such as the latest exhibit at the Idaho Black History Museum to sudden infant death syndrome. In addition, controversial issues such as recent statements made by former Senator Majority Leader Trent Lott are addressed. The program's goal is to talk about everyday issues that tie into the African American community. Carol often hears, "Are there more of you around?" The show serves to highlight the often-unnoticed diversity of Idaho. As Content Integration Manager for Hewlett Packard's Supplies Organization, Carol educates front-end partners and salespeople on products. She earned an undergraduate degree in Business Management and a certificate in International Business from Georgetown University. She also facilitates a self-esteem group at Boise State for women between the ages of sixteen and twenty-five who want to improve their ability to set goals and make conscious choices that will improve their chances of leading happier, more productive lives.

As Carol's nominator notes, "she brings her warmth and goodwill to every project she tackles. Her "can do attitude" is contagious, and she will continue to be an asset to our growing community."

Anne Pasley-Stuart

This article is a running monologue from Anne Pasley-Stuart. Her own words were more powerful than any interview translation and have been offered for readers in her voice. Anne is known for her ability to promote consensus in the community, has been quoted in a prolific number of local newspapers, and has column "Working" appeared weekly in Idaho Business Review from 1995 to 2000. She is married to Tom Stuart and has one daughter, and an adorable granddaughter. Anne. As her nominator notes, "Anne has moxie...she does everything with enthusiasm..."

"I am very fortunate to have come from a family in which the women were expected to excel to the same degree as the men. I am a third generation Idahoan, and the oldest of three children. Both my mother (who died of breast cancer twenty years ago) and my grandmother were college graduates, which is quite unusual. Not many women today have both a mother and grandmother who were college graduates. In fact, my grandmother was the principal of a school, when that was very uncommon. This kind of influence really challenged me to pursue excellence. The Pasley women were (and are) wonderful role models, and each made the choice at one point in their lives to stay home and raise their children. I became who I am in the presence of these outrageous and wonderful mentors.

"We lived in a small town, where my parents were leaders in the community. They had always stressed the value of community service. Along with many professional activities, I've been very fortunate to have the circumstances allowing me to do a lot of volunteer work. Not everyone can. For me, it's a nice way to pay for my place on the Earth. Some people might describe this drive as a 'fire in the belly'-it's just there for me. It's the challenge of getting up every morning and putting my shoulder to the wheel-the very uncomplicated hope that my work might make the world a better, more just place.

"I started out professionally as a junior-high school music teacher. When I finished my undergraduate work in Montana. After returning to the Boise area, I became the director of volunteers at the Idaho State School and Hospital, and later became involved in affirmative action training, and found that I really enjoyed training in professional settings. This prompted me to go back to school and pick up the classes needed to work full-time in the human resources field, and that's where I am today.

"Now, as an entrepreneur, I don't work full time for any one individual company, but by working for many companies I get to view broader trends and problems. I still see incredible inequities. Because of traditional inequities for professional women and minorities, which still exist, I struggle for positive organizational changes-to make things happen within institutions, agencies, and companies. Eventually, I realized that I needed to set up my own business to help address these issues, and have done so. My goal is (and always) to help other women do this. This can be exciting work for me - to see women, particularly when they dream of having their own businesses, learn how to fulfill these creative capacities. The number of jobs that have been created by these new female entrepreneurs is substantial, and I think their influence is a tremendous economic impact in Idaho. Entrepreneurs are unique in that they live in a world of ideas and possibilities, as well as the world of pragmatic realities - running a business day by day.

"When a person has a strong value system, and recognizes that
Lori Joyce has been creating educational documentaries since 1982, when she first started her own non-profit company, Idaho Films. Her career has been a passionate crusade for peace and justice. Lori's mission has been to produce documentaries for those who traditionally have no audience including women, children, indigenous populations, and defenders of social justice and of the natural environment.

One of her most influential works is "Shattered Lives," a documentary that examines domestic violence - the cycle of violence and methods of intervention to prevent it. Her culminating film about social justice, it tells the story of women who are victims of physical and verbal violence in the home and in relationships. The film exposes how violence affects these women's outlook on life. With this film, Lori joins the fight to break the cycle of domestic violence. "Shattered Lives" was broadcast on PBS and is shown to women who are court-ordered to attend classes, as well as victims of domestic violence to raise their awareness about the cycle of oppression. It was in one of those classes that Lori felt such a connection to the material that she called Lori to thank her and discuss its impact on her. According to her nominator Lori has had "countless responses to her work."

Raised to accept the traditional role of women as housewives and mothers, Lori's views changed during the start of the women's liberation movement during the 1960's. She wanted to share the untold story, after recognition for the cause without a voice.

Her work, in a predominantly male field, is a challenge in itself. She must stand up for her vision and ideas when others try to sway her decisions. One of her greatest qualities is the ability to thrive on life's difficulties, using her experiences to empower herself and others towards change. Her challenges have fueled her strengths: focus, reliance on intuition, and perseverance. As the founder of a non-profit organization she spends at least eighty-five percent of her time fund-raising. This is difficult when all she wants to do is create. But as she says, "I can do it! I can do anything if I try hard enough."

Another of her documentaries, "In Remembrance of Martin," aired nationally on PBS. It was shown to public school students around the country to commemorate the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. It tells the story of the continuous civil rights struggle and King's fight for freedom and justice.

"The Arms Race Within" tells the story of a large group of citizens engaging in a non-violent protest of a train traveling through their community that contains the nuclear potential of 1.300 Hiroshima bombs. The train traveling from Amarillo, Texas to Bangor, Washington was actually stopped due to the sheer number of protesters blocking the tracks. Although the shipment was moved into trucks, these committed citizens made a powerful statement to the government about their value for human safety as well as for the environment.

Lori's next work is a little closer to home. "Fascinated with Sacagawea" since 4th grade, the "Journey of Sacagawea" will be aired on PBS channel 4 on March 10. "This Native American girl, 16 years old, had an 8 week old baby when she left on this horrendous journey with 31 men! I have always wondered how she survived that! Lori's goal has been to discover what character traits Sacagawea possessed and what ordeals she encountered during the journey.

Why A Woman Stays

WHY A WOMAN STAYS IN AN ABUSIVE RELATIONSHIP

FEAR: Battered women are trapped by fear and terror fear of the abuse getting worse, fear of safety of family and friends, fear of being stalked, fear of being a single parent, fear of not finding a job that pays a living wage and fear of not finding affordable daycare.

HOPES: Women cling to the belief that their abusers will change even though research suggests that abusive individuals do not change unless they receive professional treatment.

RESPONSIBILITY: Society has traditionally placed the responsibility of marriage and family issues on women. Society still holds women responsible for their victimization.

ECONOMICS: Many women do not have the economic means to care for themselves. A woman can fare up to a 73% drop in her income after a divorce. Without money, finding alternate living arrangements is nearly impossible.

If a woman does leave, her problems are not always solved. Some men would rather kill their wives than allow them to leave. Too many men do.

For more information and outrageous facts visit

www.whydontyouknow.com
Pam Parker

By Angela Jones: Angela is a senior at Boise State University, majoring in English and psychology with a minor in women’s studies. She is a Girl Scout leader and a dance team coach.

Pam Parker is "an inspiration to all women - a leader, classy, professional, caring, honest - everything a person (not just a woman) should aspire to be." These are the opening words of her nomination as a Women Making History - words that ring true upon meeting Pam and words reflected by so many who know her.

Pam is currently the director of financial development for the Boise Family YMCA, which is just one of the many leadership positions she has held in her 25-year career. She has been an instrumental figure in creating more YMCA branches. Seven years ago, Pam worked for the Boise Family YMCA as the financial development director, during which time she managed a $13.5 million capital campaign to raise funds to build the West Family YMCA and Boise City Aquatic Center.

After the success of her fundraising efforts, Pam applied for the position of executive director at the new West Family YMCA and Boise City Aquatic Center. She held this position, the highlight of her career, for seven years, making her the first female YMCA branch director in Boise.

She returned to Financial Development for the Boise Family YMCA Association in March of 2002 with the goal of once more expanding and creating YMCA facilities. The YMCA annual fundraising for financial assistance in 2002 is $450,000 and $550,000 for 2003 - goals that Pam will be sure to meet. Pam is excited about the opportunities to once more manage the anticipated $13 million campaign for a facility in Caldwell. Within the next five years, Pam would like to see the beginnings of a new resident camp and additional YMCA branches in our community.

Pam’s hard work with the YMCA has not gone unrecognized. In 2000 she received the Tribute to Women and Industry award for outstanding performance as an executive in the Boise community and in 1999 the National West Field Women in the YMCA “Spir of the Woman,” award for leadership in an executive director role. Also in 1999, Pam received the WCA Joyce Stein award for being a pioneering impact on the growth and advancement of women.

Jane Buser

By Tracy Petering: Tracy is a returning student at Boise State. She is an English major and theatre arts minor who hopes to teach secondary education in the bush of Alaska someday.

Jane Buser is "a woman of all seasons," her nominator notes. "She has a strong sense of self and personal security to take risks, working to improve the lives of people." For those who know her, she has spent many years living tired but with humor and positive energy finds joy in each day. Her response, when asked how she is, is always "Best Ever."

Jane was born in Fostoria, Ohio. She was fortunate enough to be blessed with a wonderful family. Her mother, who died last year, is one of her heroes. Jane credits her mother with giving her a sense of community: "We all have a responsibility to give back to our community." Her mother lived her life modeling this and was a driving force in what Jane does both at work and in her "free" time.

Serving Boise State University for over 29 years, Jane is currently the Executive Director of Human Resource Services, where she and about 18 others are responsible for the employment, benefits, payroll, employee relations, affirmative action, compensation, training, and records management for over 3,800 employees. When she began her work many years ago, she was one of two staff members in what was then known as the personnel office.

However, with her leadership over the years, many new programs and benefits have been established for Boise State employees. Jane was at the forefront in establishing the Option Retirement Plan (TIAA-CREF and VALIC for all faculty and professional staff; employer paid retiree life insurance, and the Employee Assistance Plan (EAP) to name a few. Jane spends considerable time working with the Idaho Legislature promoting salary and benefit plans for the university employees. She has also helped establish sexual harassment policies for the university and serves on numerous committees, offering her expertise and viewpoint on a variety of issues.

Jane’s interest in women resulted in her efforts to establish a chapter of HER/West on campus, an organization for women faculty and professional staff. HER/West was the driving force behind the first several Women’s History Month programs and the Women’s Center, to name just a few of their activities.

The College and University Human Professional Association - HR has been a focus for Jane professionally. She helped create the NW Region and served as its first chair and again 20 years later agreed to again serve as chair. She was also on the national board of directors working with HR colleagues across the nation to promote issues benefiting employees and institutions.

In the Boise Community, Jane has served on several boards including the United Way of Ada County, the American Red Cross, Gracie’s List (by-partisan pro-choice women’s organization), and the YWCA. As president of the YWCA board in the early ’80’s, the board recognized the need for shelter and counseling for women experiencing domestic violence. As a result, the Y’s residence was remodeled.
Kelly Spafford

By Angela Jones. Angela is a senior at Boise State University, majoring in English and psychology with a minor in women's studies. She is a Girl Scout leader and a dance team coach.

Three years ago, Boise, Idaho, had yet to be officially or nationally known as a "vagina friendly city." That was before Kelly Spafford had the idea to bring Eve Ensler's play, *The Vagina Monologues* to the Boise State University campus. Last year during an HBO presentation of her Obie award winning play, Eve Ensler announced to millions of viewers that among hundreds of cities nationwide, Boise, Idaho was indeed a "vagina friendly city."

Kelly had been working for a local non-profit organization as a rape crisis hotline worker. Frustrated by the seemingly inhumane number of women being victimized by physical and sexual violence, Kelly also felt determined to do something - anything - to help women on a larger scale. Certainly, being the understanding and helpful voice on the phone, connecting women to proper resources, was a way to help, but she was looking for broader ways to impact a social system that allows for such violence to occur and even promotes it through media messages and misinformation. "It tore me apart," she said in regard to the women's suffering she was hearing. "It broke my heart."

While looking for a way to make a difference, Kelly searched the Internet one night, looking for information and ways to get involved. As she searched, Kelly found the website for the V-Day Organization, a group whose mission is to end worldwide violence against women and girls. On the website was information on *The Vagina Monologues*, intrigued by what she read, she requested that V-Day send an information packet to her.

Uncertain about what to do next, she paid a visit to the Boise State Women's Center. After presenting her idea to the Women's Center Advisory Board and after lengthy discussions about the potential implications of producing a play with the word "vagina" in the title, Kelly's vision for a "vagina friendly Boise" was born. Through television and radio interviews, Kelly maintained poise and eloquence representing the plight of millions of women world-wide.

Finally, the play opened at the Special Events Center to three sold-out shows. Kelly recalls anticipating picketers, but there were none. She realized that the people of Boise were ready for this.

In bringing *The Vagina Monologues* to Boise, Kelly says that her worldview has changed. She has learned so much about violence and how it is, also, an instigator of fear. "Violence is not just a woman's issue," she explained. "It's about the treatment of a marginalized group of people." She began to understand that there really are people who are afraid on a daily basis. So many people can't walk to their car at night without wondering if someone will grab them from behind, and these people aren't just women. They are the same people who are stigmatized by the media or made to jump into the punch line of bad jokes.

This awareness of the fear of violence, even here in Boise, also made Kelly very attentive to problems women encounter in other parts of the world. She considers women in America to be extremely lucky because we have the privilege to vote to own property, things that some women elsewhere may never have experienced. Instead, these women must submit to the men around them, possibly being subjected to rape or battery, neither of which are crimes in their countries.

Kelly has since graduated from Boise State University. She is planning to attend graduate school in Washington D.C., an endeavor she postponed in order to stay in Boise as her mother fights breast cancer. She is currently working at the Red Cross Disaster Services, which provides aid for families and victims of disasters such as fire or flood.

Kelly considers *The Vagina Monologues* to be her greatest accomplishment, bringing the play to Boise has affected so many people. Proceeds from the productions work to support the Boise State Women's Center and its programs that focus on ending violence against women. Additionally, donations are accepted at each show for a women's organization that V-Day supports each year. This year, a portion of ticket sales will go to a Native American women's fund. Last year, over $1,000 was donated to the Afghan women's fund.

In bringing *The Vagina Monologues* to Boise, Kelly hopes to spread education, which she believes is the only way to end violence against women and girls. She feels that people in Boise need to recognize the problem in Boise and to stop trying to ignore it. Last year when Eve Ensler mentioned on HBO that Boise, alongside Philadelphia and San Francisco, is a vagina friendly city, tears welled up in Kelly's eyes. She said that she cried the first time she heard it, and it still makes her emotional to think that she was responsible for that.

It is still so hard for her to believe that her small vision of doing something to end her own frustration with a situation sparked something in Boise that turned out to be so huge. But it has. Boise State is welcoming *The Vagina Monologues* back for its third consecutive year, one that promises to be as successful as years previous. Thank you, Kelly!
Fatma Slaton

By Kelly Morse. Kelly is an English and Spanish major, which makes for interesting conversations. She is also the program assistant for the Boise State Women's Center, which reflects her passion for women's issues in the rest of her life. She has studied in Spain, lived in five different states, and plans on writing and traveling more as her life progresses.

This is a story about bravery and tragedy. It is, unfortunately, not the first time we’ve heard it in our country. It is the American Dream personified in our ancestors – those who couldn’t find work because they were Irish, were held captive in slave boats, who toiled on the railroads after being doctors in China. It is the immigrant experience. And while there is much sadness in leaving one's culture and home, there is also the need to honor those who take that brave first step onto American soil.

"You know that America is a dream to anyone in the world," Fatma Slaton's English is slightly accented, and she clips each word out of the air in a precise, thoughtful manner. "I was told that life in America was perfect; no one can lie, and there is no blackmail. It is completely fair," she says, adding wryly. "I came here, really, with a foolish idea."

December is a hard month. Fatma grieves on the anniversary of the death of her mother, who died when she was twenty-two years old. The eldest in the family, Fatma stepped in and took over as caretaker for her brothers and sisters while simultaneously raising two infants of her own. Even though she had both lost a mother and become one at the same time, she still enjoyed her marriage and career.

Living in Kuwait, she worked first as a social worker and then ran the office of a Dean at Kuwait University. In Fatma's culture, "man is responsible for woman." However, she considered herself an "upgraded Egyptian woman - independent. I worked my whole life, and helped out my family." Then tragedy struck again. Shortly after celebrating their tenth wedding anniversary, her husband died when Iraq invaded Kuwait during the Gulf War. Fatma worked through her grief, and when she fell in love with an American man two years later, she thought life might start anew.

"I started visiting the States in 1997 to get to know the people and how to live here." Now married to her sweetheart, Fatma began dreaming of life abroad. The stories her husband told her and the international awe of the country assuaged the fears she had about leaving her home and her enriching career. Reflecting on that time, Fatma notes, "We (other countries) still feel that freedom is America." They moved to McCall, ID on Christmas Day, then moved to Cascade four months later. The year was 1999, and Fatma and her husband had plans for buying a hotel in the area. Her daughters were finishing high school, and would soon go to college as her husband promised her. It seemed that all the stories about America were true after all.

In order to pay the first investment on the hotel, Fatma placed both her retirement money and her daughter's inheritance into a mutual account that she held with her husband. Assured that her daughters would go to university as soon as they became residents in the state, she began the process of becoming a U.S. citizen. Fatma had a fairly good grasp of English, but her husband refused to help her through the process of naturalization. "I started feeling I was attached to me." Although Fatma had supported him while he was in Kuwait, he did not return the favor once in the U.S. There was also trouble with the business.

"I had never been in business, but I helped out where I could: making beds, cleaning rooms, and cooking. I didn't feel comfortable in my own $400,000 business." It's here in the interview that Fatma begins to break down. "I am a very smart woman, but I am very tenderhearted too." When her husband started abusing her after using her, she simply worked harder and got a job at a local bank so that they could get insurance for his diabetes. However, her husband barged in and yelled at her at work, and they let her go. She sent the children away, and the couple began seeing marriage counselors.

Finally, one hot August night after a fight she walked out of the house to cool down. "I had nowhere to go. I didn't tell anyone because I didn't have any friends. I went to the hospital." A doctor who knew her circumstances admitted her, and she stayed at the hospital for two days. When her husband was contacted he said that they were separated, and that he was filing for divorce.

Now Fatma lives in a basement apartment in McCall, and at 51 years is once again trying to start her life over. It is hard for her to talk about it. She keeps in close contact with her daughters, one of whom is in the army and one who works for a living. She works at a bakery owned by an Egyptian friend, and receives comfort and support from the religious community in Cascade and McCall. "I am Muslim, but they invite me to their churches and support me." Still, it is hard to comprehend all the changes in her life. "It is so hard to understand working at a university for 14 years, and then to work at a bakery."

I am a strange person, a foreigner coming to a strange town. Like a snake, she has grown out of each skin and pushed on to new lives and new cultures. Being honored for her bravery is one small step on the path of her new life. In the end, Fatma's voice sounds sad but resolute. "I just want someone to hear me."

Lynn Gabriel, M.A.

By Kelly Morse. Kelly is an English and Spanish major, which makes for interesting conversations. She is also the program assistant for the Boise State Women's Center, which reflects her passion for women's issues in the rest of her life. She has studied in Spain, lived in five different states, and plans on writing and traveling more as her life progresses.

"One purpose of a liberal arts education is to make your head a more interesting place to live inside of for the rest of your life." - Mary Patterson McPherson, President Emerita, Bryan Mawr College

"I pick up little pieces, and the ones that stick are important; the ones that don‘t become experiences I look back on and enjoy," Lynn Gabriel is a woman who understands and advocates the idea of living a full life of varied experiences. Over the course of all her lifetime she has studied in Germany, lived in both New York and Alaska, and in her current position as Managing Director for the Global Business Consortium at Boise State travels around the world on what seems like a weekly basis.

Getting to know Lynn Gabriel is not difficult; her friends joke that, give her fifteen minutes, and she'll tell her life story to a stranger. However, this woman is full of surprises, from graduating a woman's college knowing how to ride a motorcycle. If you ask Lynn herself, she'll tell you that she is "the sum total of the interactions of her care being and her relationships with people." For someone that has a talent for relating a little bit to everyone, this can make for an interesting life.

Although a business professional, Lynn is a strong advocate for a liberal arts education. "She explains, The reason you get an education is to help you relate to people and understand the human experience." Through her job she helps international business students understand the importance of different cultures and being able to connect with someone despite initial differences. She strongly believes in the concept of education as a means of giving new experiences to the individual.
Men are usually more interested in the public aspect of credit. Women want to make things work. Lynn's choice to make things work has led her to co-produce a documentary, study multiple languages and try to connect with each person she meets. Lynn Gabriel is not only a citizen of the world - she is a resident of the individual heart.

Dr. Sue Chew

By Teresa Lipton: Teresa majored in English, technical communication emphasis, with a minor in Spanish at Boise State University. She interned as the newsletter producer for Boise State's Women's Center during the Fall 2002 semester, and earned her bachelor's degree in December 2002.

"Going out and getting an education is like going out and growing an award-winning garden. First you envision what it will look like, then you grow seedlings, water it, and tend it carefully on a daily basis. Our education is like that—it takes time and work—preferably daily work. You earn it through sweat equity." - Sue Chew

Education and personal growth is very important to Sue Chew. As a Boise State University teacher, tutor, and mentor, Sue encourages people to excavate their own power. As a student, she explores how to be the most effective she can be with her life. And, as a board member of the Idaho Women's Network and the Boise State Women's Center, she helps deepen people's understanding, and broaden their perspective of the world of others. Because social justice issues are central to her life, Sue persistently raises awareness about racial discrimination and oppression.

Sue inspires her students to be very active in their own growth and education. As a mentor for women returning to school, Sue values the vast life experiences of her mentees, so she helps them listen to themselves and encourages them. "When they find their own ways," she says, "it's so beyond anything I could have come up with for them. That's awesome; that's THEM uncovering their OWN deep potential. And that's the idea!"

As a student, Sue finds herself in sociology classes so that she can study how we relate to each other and understand how oppression is a part of the foundation of our entire history. She explores how we can dismantle racism at institutional and cultural levels by "asking the questions, listening with open hearts and deep reflection, and then educating others." She explains that race, class, and gender oppression are embedded in our very culture, so they pervade even our educational institutions. To begin work on one type of oppression,

a person needs to examine all three because, as Martin Luther King Jr. noted, "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere... Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly."

The point is, she emphasizes, "when we find injustices and oppression, do we have the willingness and the capability to make changes? The Boise State campus is the best place to work with this because it's still fairly isolated from a very cosmopolitan mix. Here, it's just people trying to get through school, and in that process we can recognize that some practices the university has actually might be stepping on other people. Because diversity is so important, we must stand up for the diversity requirement that Boise State student senator Ali Ishaq and Boise State professor Dr. Marcy Newman are proposing." Sue says, "We all need to understand what life is like walking in someone else's shoes. Sue says we can move forward on this front through the efforts of the many understanding minds and hearts already here, and yet to come.

Sue's dispute resolution classes help her to challenge racism at the individual level. She hopes that students of color realize that, though they may be students of color, they still carry the same internal messages that their white classmates carry inside themselves about other people of color—that it usually comes to the surface when hostilities flair. That's when the first real work of dispute resolution begins—recognizing and replacing our own internal messages gives us the clarity to address these issues person-to-person. As Sue says, "We CAN do it and we have been doing it." Sue is grateful to the many people at Boise State who are willing to work to dismantle racism, and for that they thank those of the Cultural and Ethnic Diversity Board, the volunteer faculty, staff, students, and alumni who spend countless hours to create the understanding that is crucial for the next generation of leaders and citizens.

As a board member for Idaho Women's Network (IWN), Sue feels lucky. Not only is it an organization that actively improves the quality of life and opportunities for Idaho women and their families, but it is also at the forefront in challenging racism. They are working to be a multicultural, antiracist organization. Having already begun the work at the individual level, IWN is moving on to the next step, analyzing in depth their own structure, so that they can truly promote justice, diversity, and equal rights.

As an advisory board member for Boise State Women's Center, which raises awareness about university policies, programs, and services affecting women, Sue feels that her most important contribution is her perspective as a woman of color. She explains that, although most women understand about not having male privilege, many white women may be unaware of the privilege that their whiteness gives them, and she motivates people to think about that.

When Sue's friend Kelly Morse nominated her for "Women Making History," she said that Sue Chew "is constantly furthering awareness in herself and others." She is ever pensive and examining issues on many levels, when people interact with Sue, they are very likely to look beyond the surface of what seems to be, and envision what can be.

International Women's Day: March 8

The following information is adapted from This River of Courage: Generations of Women's Resistant Action by Pam McAllister (Philadelphia: New Society Publishers, 1991).

The official holiday had its modest beginnings in 1908. That year in the U.S. the Socialist Party appointed a Woman's National Committee to Campaign for Suffrage. After meeting, this Committee recommended that the Socialist Party set aside a day every year to campaign to women's right to vote, a big step for socialists and one welcomed by women working for suffrage: "Socialists in the U.S. were not as rare in the early 1900s as they are today.

The International Women's Day protest that changed the world occurred in Russia in 1917 (March 8 by Western reckoning, February 23 on the Gregorian calendar). Coming on the rise of a long struggle and many strikes, International Women's Day 1917 inspired thousands of Russian women to leave their homes and factories to protest the terrible shortages of food, the high prices, the world war, and the increased suffering they had a字母 endured. The protest inspired the last push of a revolution. A general strike spread through Petrograd, and, within a week, Czar Nicholas II was forced to abdicate.

After 1917, and in honor of women's role in the Russian Revolution, International Women's Day secured its place on March 8 on socialist calendars. The date became official in 1921, when Bulgarian women attending the International Women's Secretariat of the Communist International made a motion that the day be uniformly celebrated around the world on March 8.


For more information and outrageous facts visit: www.whydon'tyouknow.com
Vicky Irving

By Kathleen Graven

Kathleen is a public relations officer and journalist for Boise State University. She is the mother of four children and lives in West Boise.

With her children grown and out of the house, the average woman would be tempted to sit back and enjoy the peace and quiet. But Vicky Irving is no average woman. A foster mother for more than 20 years, Vicky is dedicated to making life better for young victims of domestic abuse, broken homes and fractured dreams.

While her peers are turning empty bedrooms into dens and guest rooms, Irving is filling hers with enough cribs and beds to house up to six children ages 4 and under. Cluttered by high chairs, safety gates and piles of toys, her modest three-bedroom Boise home is a safe haven for youngsters whose parents are permanently or temporarily unable to care for them.

Her life's work began when she was the mother of two young children who are now 29 and 27. Wanting to build a career around children while also wanting to be home with her own kids, she chose to open a day-care business. When a child showed up one day bruised and battered, she and her husband Barry reported the situation to Health and Welfare, who came and examined the child.

"They said they had nowhere to place her," she recalls. "They told us they could temporarily license us for foster care and we said 'OK.' Close to 200 children later, she doesn't regret her decision. She sold her day-care business in the late '80s, but continues to provide care for kids in need. In December, she was providing a home for six children ages 12, 3 and 2 years, and 16 and 2 months.

Vicky keeps things clean through routine and organization. Upon arriving at her home, each child is assigned his or her own high chair, bed, seat in the van — even their own color of cup. Those assignments never vary, providing not only structure but also security. "It makes it easy," Vicky says. "Little kids just aren't hard to take care of — I've always enjoyed little kids."

But there are sacrifices. Vicky and Barry take very few vacations, since respite care is difficult to find. And the children are often unhappy when Vicky leaves even for short trips to the grocery store. "They cry even when I leave them with Barry," she says.

And there are the trips — to exams, hearings, evaluations and court-appointed visits. Each trip requires stripping numerous children into car seats, loading up piles of gear and fighting traffic. Finally, letting go of a child can be tough. "Some kids you get hooked on — they just walk in the door and you're hooked," she says. "Others you have to work around. But all kids are special to us. I used to be able to name them all, but I can't do that anymore."

Through it all, she has had her share of triumphs, such as the children she sheltered for two years while their mother turned her life around, eventually enrolling in a program at the City Lights women's shelter.

Her joy in seeing that family reunited, with the mother able to care for her children, makes it all worthwhile, she says. She still keeps in touch with them and cheers their successes.

But she also experienced almost unbearable heartache as she watched another child, one she had raised for four years and loved as one of her own, returned to dysfunctional parents. Knowing her situation, whenever she hears on the news about a teen in trouble, her thoughts go to that young boy who is now a teen-ager — and she wonders what has happened to him, and whether he remembers being a part of her home and heart. "You worry all these years later and think, 'What happened to this little guy?'"

Vicky admits it takes a special type of person to provide foster care. Calls often come in the middle of the night about children in dire situations. One call concerned a young child found in a motel room. Officials didn't know anything about him — not even his name. Could she take him in?

Other calls are for children facing physical or sexual abuse, with parents strung out on drugs or suffering from alcoholism. "The problems children face nowadays are unbelievable," she says, "a lot harder than when we started years ago."

Bob Fritsch, who with his wife has been a court-appointed guardian for children taken from their parents by Health and Welfare, nominated Vicky as a Woman Making History because of her dedication to the children in her care.

"We both think she walks on water with the care, attention and devotion she gives each and every child in her home," he says. "When you consider the tremendous number of kids she has cared for and her modest circumstances, it just blows you away... The world needs more real people like her."

"I can't see retiring from this," Vicky says, rocking a sleeping child in her arms. "I'll be doing this until I'm 100 years old."

Lynn Rahn

By Angela Jones

Angela is a senior at Boise State University, majoring in English and psychology with a minor in women's studies. She is a Girl Scout leader and a dance team coach.

It's the little things that make a large difference. For Lynn Rahn, it was a little magic marker thanks you card scrawled by an elementary student. It was a room full of little girls laughing, contending over craft projects and cocoa. It was the hug and a sweet, "I love you from the girl who has everything except attentive parents. Never overlooking the everyday occurrences that mean so much is what led Lynn to spend her life volunteering with children.

Lynn started volunteering with young children in 1961 with her eldest daughter's Girl Scout Brownie troop. "The day I became a leader was the best day of my life," Lynn said. "It was a whole new beginning for me. Lynn continued volunteering as a leader until her own daughters, all three girl scouts themselves, graduated high school. Being a troop leader for the Silver Sage Girl Scout Council sparked many other volunteer positions for Lynn.

Eight years after first becoming a leader, Lynn and her husband, Jim, became co-chairs of the Camp Alice Pittenger Committee in McCall. The following nine years, Lynn and Jim worked on rebuilding and maintaining the grounds, building new facilities, transporting supplies, preparing the campground for camp each year, and various other tasks that surfaced spontaneously. Lynn also organized the other parent volunteers and helped provide them with meals and equipment. Lynn and Jim would take their family to Camp Pittenger about 15 times each summer, spending innumerable hours working to create a great camping environment for hundreds of girl scouts and leaders. Girl scouts are still using many of the facilities created during Lynn's nine years with Camp Pittenger.

After serving for two years as a volunteer director for the cookie sales, Lynn began her first paid position as the statewide cookie sales manager in 1981. She was known statewide as the "Cookie Lady." The "Cookie Lady" retired from the sales only a few years ago, but not before being awarded the "Thanks Badge," the highest honor one can achieve, for her myriad accomplishments and years of tireless dedication.

In addition to her work in Girl Scouts, Lynn has held many other volunteer positions in Boise. For 22 years she served as secretary-treasurer of her neighborhood irrigation association and as a member of the Boise Ditch Safety Committee where a primary concern was children's safety around local ditches and canals. She helped make others aware of the necessity of ditch safety legislation and raised money to provide neighborhood ditches with fencing. She also served as a member of the Youth Employment Advisory Committee as a representative of Girl Scouts, a position that involved working with children and child labor laws.

Currently, Lynn volunteers for the Family Advocate Program one day a week, an agency that works with battered women and children by representing them in court. Lynn started with the Family Advocate Program in 2000, working in the office with files and records. "I worked for so long in the happy side of life with Girl Scouts. Now I see things that aren't always so cheerful and it really opens my eyes," Lynn comments solemnly.

As her daughter Tricia notes, "Lynn has touched the lives of hundreds of girls and community members alike with her beaming smile, boisterous laugh, knowledge (and) kind words. She is a true mentor of the human spirit and selflessly gives her time and talents to help others. She is a strong advocate of children, both young and old and has always gone the extra mile."

Tricia remembers that her mother's cure for any problem has always been volunteering. "According to Lynn, the best way to feel better about life is to donate a portion of your time and effort to someone else. Along the way, you are sure to gain a better understanding of yourself and a better appreciation for what you have.

What has inspired her through more than 40 years of volunteering in the community? "Each child whose life she touched. She has felt it as each little arm wrapped around her in the tight squeeze of a hug. She has recognized it every time an adult woman..." Lynn says, "I just enjoy doing what I'm doing."

Dr. Suzanne McCorkle

By Melissa Starr

Melissa is a nontraditional student double-majoring in sociology with minors in women's studies and gerontology and communications (English/ Journalism emphasis). She is also working toward a certificate in dispute resolution.

Recognized as Idaho's Peacekeeper of the Year in 2002 by the Idaho Mediation Association, Dr. Suzanne McCorkle is known as a "pioneer in the area of dispute resolution and the founder of one of Boise State's most important community programs — the Dispute Resolution Program," notes Stephanie Witt, associate vice president for Academic Affairs, one of her many nominators.

According to Witt, "Dr. McCorkle understood that with training,
conflict could be managed and diffused. This program offers extensive course offerings and training sessions throughout the Treasure Valley (and) provides a critical alternative to expensive judicial litigation.

If there was a defining moment when she knew she wanted to specialize in the process of mediation, it was at a seminar in Denver, while she was earning her graduate degree in Boulder. Joyce Wilmot-Hacker presented interpersonal conflict management as an alternative to the more argumentative ways of dealing with conflict. This idea became the focus of McCorkle's research and eventually influenced her career.

The idea that conflict could be managed and diffused held the potential for adversaries to share both responsibility for and the benefits of a win-win outcome. This idea became the focus of McCorkle's research and influenced her career.

As a result of her efforts, the Dispute Resolution Program, certified mediators are now making a difference in workplaces, neighborhoods, and families throughout Idaho. Recognizing that conflict is a natural part of life, she brought people together to create their own mutually beneficial solutions with the assistance of neutral mediators. Under McCorkle's direction, the Office of Conflict Management Services was presented with the Idaho Peacemaker Award from the Peaceful Settlements Foundation in 1996.

Dr. McCorkle has served Boise State for almost three decades, filling many roles from debate coach (10 years), assistant professor (6 years), associate professor (8 years), and full professor (1992-present), program director, and college administrator (Associate Dean for five years and Interim Dean for two years). "To all these roles, she brought the highest level of professionalism and expertise, note three of her nomenclatures, and we are all the better for the time and effort she expended."

Dr. McCorkle's ability to make peace is not only evident in the resolution of individual conflicts, but also in her ability to manage conflict on a larger scale. One of her greatest achievements emerged out of the toughest of times.

"Budget holdbacks and a hiring freeze played a major role in the final year of her tenure as Interim Dean (2000-2002). She skillfully navigated through the muddiest of waters - budgets already stretched to the limit - avoiding layoffs of any college faculty or staff or the loss of any complete programs," said one colleague.

Dr. McCorkle has mentored students and peers of the Boise State Dispute Resolution Program and was instrumental in encouraging some of the most experienced mediators to complete their degrees. "She is an excellent example of how sharing of one's passion can make real change in our world," said another colleague.

In 1990, Boise State's student paper selected Dr. McCorkle as their first "Hot Prof" for outstanding teaching. In that same year, she received the Boise State University Faculty Library Award.

Dr. McCorkle has also served as past president of the Northwest Communication Association, and as Idaho Humanities Council grant evaluator for "Women in Political Activism" in 1977. A member of the Board of Directors of the YWCA from 1986 to 1989, Dr. McCorkle was presented with the YWCA of Boise Outstanding Service Award in 1989.

A strong promoter and defender of women's issues which are strongly featured in her publication and research efforts. Dr. McCorkle taught one of Boise State's first gender studies courses in the early 1980s, and has recently been approached by SAGE publications to submit a book prospectus on her "Women Climbing the Ivory Tower," series of presentations. In 1992 she moderated the Schaff/Weedington debate on the role of women in the 1990s.

In the last decade, Dr. McCorkle's promotion of women has extended to a national level in several capacities, including past President of the Women's Caucus of the National Communication Association (1995-97) and past President of the Organization for Research on Women and Communication (1993-95).

Although Dr. McCorkle has been included in Who's Who in Entertainment, Who's Who in the West, Who's Who in the Media and Communications, Who's Who in American Education, as well as Outstanding Young Women of America, it isn't the long list of honors that people remember most about her.

"Her compassion and integrity are admirable qualities that I appreciate and try to exemplify in my daily life. She encourages the best from anyone she meets, as she empowers them with creative challenges. I am impressed with her ability to encourage those around her to cultivate confidence, enthusiasm, and professionalism in all that they do." What is immediately evident about Dr. Suzanne McCorkle is that she is too busy being herself and putting her energy where her passions lie. She keeps her eye on the goal and doesn't get bogged down with what does not matter in the end. The collective steps that she has taken—each individual and deliberate—toward what she describes as "a moral obligation to serve," is what history is made of.

**Betsy Dunklin**

By Ellie Allen: Ellie is a high school student living in Boise. She enjoys showing her dogs, Dante and Chinook, in AKC conformation and junior showmanship. Aside from dog shows, Ellie also likes to ride her horse, Flame, and occasionally shows her jump and dressage. She also enjoys art, reading, and writing. She has written previously for this project.

"There's a large chunk of time between where I come from and how I got into this," Betsy Dunklin reflected as she thought about her upbringing and her politics. Betsy Dunklin, former Idaho state senator, was born in Virginia near the Appalachian Mountains and grew up in South Carolina. She was raised by conservative parents, devout Lutherans, not really active in politics, but Betsy began to follow a calling different from her parents at a somewhat early age.

Growing up during the civil rights movement was a "formative time" for Betsy. Attending segregated public schools, she learned it was wrong from what she heard from civil rights leaders, and what she witnessed during that time shaped her personal and political views.

"All these people around me were professing that racism was bad, but they themselves were thinking racist thoughts and saying racist words. It was surrounding us."

Raised close to the church, she went to a Lutheran college in South Carolina where she majored in English. After graduation, she waited tables for months before entering a graduate program in journalism, not knowing what else to do with her English degree.

While in the program, she met her future husband, Chip Cole, at an anti-war rally at the Charleston, S.C., naval base.

When she was 23, she and Chip moved to Baltimore, Maryland where she worked for the American Friends Service Committee's peace education program. During that time she was involved in the Women's Caucus of the National Communication Association grant. She was also involved in the Women's Caucus of the National Communication Association grant. She was then involved in the Women's Caucus of the National Communication Association grant. She was also involved in the Women's Caucus of the National Communication Association grant. She was then involved in the Women's Caucus of the National Communication Association grant. She was also involved in the Women's Caucus of the National Communication Association grant. She was then involved in the Women's Caucus of the National Communication Association grant.
In a time when women had no real political voice, Betsy made sure that "those issues were heard." People think that they are voiceless, that their opinions don't matter, but they can have a voice and they do matter.

After several years of building the Idaho Women's Network, Betsy was ready for a change. It was election season, and several people encouraged her to run for office. Although she felt a bit unsure about holding a public office, she decided to run for state senator and won the election.

Her nemesis recounts a personal story whereby in 1998, when he was a senior high school student, Betsy sponsored him as a page in the Idaho Senate, even though he was not from her district:

"In 1998 there were a couple of anti-abortion bills up, and one was a very detrimental parental consent bill. During the debate it became increasingly hard for me to sit quietly to the side and listen to all the horrible, chauvinistic and ultimately degrading remarks that many of the senators continually made toward women, and a woman's reproductive choice. The hardest part was that I couldn't say anything, and occasionally I would be asked by one of the senators who had just finished spewing venom from his mouth to sharpen a pencil or retrieve a document from his desk. My job seemed increasingly more difficult to handle. But then the good senator from district 19 was recognized by the chair, and Senator Dunklin stood up and gave the rebuttal that was so desperately needed. Betsy gave me the relief that I didn't need.

Other people encouraged me to continue to support women's rights, not only in the legislature, but also with the people who had passed the bill. I was able to receive a scholarship, and I worked tenaciously for two years to get the bill passed, unfortunately failing both times.

"I was too young to know that this was a hard thing to do. All I knew was I didn't want to quit, and I did things I've never done since, like organize a news conference led by the archbishop! But I wish I still didn't know how hard it was. I worked and did something and it paid off eventually. It is that determination and spirit that makes Betsy Dunklin such an effective leader. The bill was eventually passed by her successor, but Betsy raised the groundwork for it and made it possible for it to have gotten that far."

Maxine Sower Randall

By Teresa Lipo: Teresa majored in English, technical communication emphasis, with a minor in Social Science at Boise State University. She interned as the newsletter producer for Boise State Women's Center during the Fall 2002 semester and earned her bachelor's degree in December 2002.

In 1938, Maxine Sower was chosen by her peers at Nampa High School as the senior most in dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism—the senior girl who would best represent Idaho as the Idaho Citizen Pilgrim for the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR). In her letter of recommendation to the Idaho DAR Committee, Nampa teacher and historian Annie Laurie Bird wrote, "Maxine is an all-American girl. She is active as a clean-up committee as she is leading the Grand March." Although Maxine Sower Randall continues to lead various "grand marches," she is just as likely to be found behind the scenes supporting people with a dedication that makes her a woman Making History.

Through the years Maxine has been recognized for several accomplishments. That 1938 DAR committee did select her to represent Idaho in Washington, D.C. During her week-long visit there, she and the other DAR Pilgrims had tea in the White House with Eleanor Roosevelt, and at Easter Sunday service they sat in the gallery behind President Roosevelt and his family. She recalls with a grin, "That was pretty heady stuff." Maxine was also featured in the Idaho Statesman for various achievements during her years at The College of Idaho (now Albertson College of Idaho). After she returned to campus after serving in WWII, she earned the Elks Honor Award as the Outstanding Senior Woman of the Class of 1947.

Accolades aside however, Maxine feels most rewarded by positively impacting other people's lives. She grew up in a happy family surrounded by four brothers and the loving partnership of her parents, who worked together to raise their children through both the good and lean times. Maxine had no children of her own, but she feels blessed with two stepchildren, three grandchildren, plus many dear nieces and nephews. She treasures her family and friends and feeling privileged by all the good things in her life, values the company of those who are interested in serving other people, just as she has always done.

When Maxine was a junior at C of I, the bombing of Pearl Harbor eventually stirred her to join the Navy. For three years, as part of WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Services), Maxine served as an instructor with the Link Trainer, a simulated flight device resembling a stub-nosed plane. The pilots pulled the hood over their heads so they saw only the instrument panel, and she taught them how to rely on these instruments when flying.

Even the most skilled trainer has her doubts—doubts fueled by the playful ribbing of her brothers who, when they learned that her duties included maintaining the Link Trainers, teased her about the war effort relying on her meager mechanical skills. As she remembers this time in her life, laughing about her inability to use even a screwdriver, Maxine recalls the dread with which she reported to each call for Link maintenance, thinking, "Oh my gosh, please let it be something I can find and fix." Although at first she lacked confidence in her own ability as a mechanic, Maxine proved to be steady and dependable as petty officer first class, characteristics that seem to permeate her life.

After the war, Maxine impacted the lives of many women throughout her 21 years in personnel with Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque, NM. As an interviewer, and supervisor of 75 secretaries, she encouraged and supported her employees, particularly the older women. At age 70 Maxine took a competitive state exam and became a consultant for the Idaho Industrial Commission.

Maxine has always shared her time and energy with friends and family. Not only does Maxine chauffeur and shop for less mobile friends, but she is thoughtful about how she does this. "It takes time," she notes. "I think one of the biggest things I had to learn is patience. You can't rush people who need a wheel chair or a walker. Time is on a different level somehow. If you're helping, you just plan on spending the time that's needed to do what has to be done." This "loving kindness" and "real talent for friendship" are what inspired best friend of 80 years, Peggy Barr Faylor, to nominate Maxine as a Woman Making History.

Perhaps Maxine is so passionate about helping her friends and family because she has faced her own health crises and is extremely grateful for her current good health. At age 86, she discovered that she had breast cancer; she survived a lumpectomy and 35 radiation treatments. At age 89, Maxine broke her hip, her biggest...
regret at the time was missing the Sun Valley Jazz Festival. Her doctors speculate that all the walking and stair-climbing she'd done as a census-taker just weeks before the injury helped her to heal swiftly; she made the Festival the following year.

These days Maxine is still active with her church (where she is an ordained elder and deacon), and serves on the Pastoral Care Team, the Nampa High School reunion committee (which just held the 64-year class reunion in September 2002), the P.E.O. (a philanthropic educational organization that provides educational loans to women), and the Albertson College of Idaho Half Century Society and National Alumni Association. In 1999 she accepted an Alumni Heritage Award on behalf of the 29 family members who have attended Albertson College of Idaho. In addition, the Warhawk Air Museum in Nampa has a Link Trainer on exhibit and Maxine is a recent volunteer in their student program “Bridging the Generations.”

Maxine Sower Randall has a zest for life, a love of good humor and fun, and tremendous gratitude that she is surrounded by friends and family. She makes the most of her good health by living life fully and helping others. Maxine attributes her positive attitude to her mother and grandmother, who were always her role models, and she enthusiastically approaches each new day with her motto, “This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.”

### Lolita Anastasio

By Crystal Young: Crystal is a senior at Boise State University, majoring in English with an emphasis on writing.

Lolita Anastasio. Pioneer Human rights activist. El corazón de la mujer que pertenece a la gente. (A woman whose heart belongs to the people.)

In 1965, a young Lolita moved to America from her homeland of Mexico. She lived in South Bend, Indiana, wed at age twenty, bore three children, started her own construction company, and never looked back.

Lolita was born and raised in Mexico City where her father was a doctor and her uncle a chemical engineer. Her mother passed away during childbirth when Lolita was only five years old, leaving her without a mother and without any siblings. Two years later when she was only seven, her father passed away from a heart attack, but not without leaving a crucial imprint on her. From as early as she can remember she wanted to be a doctor, helping people on a deeper level. While she never became a medical doctor, her father’s spirit of helping others never left her: to this day, a woman whose heart belongs to the people, is honoring her father’s memory, by helping people on a very deep level, indeed.

After her father’s death, Lolita’s tía on her father’s side raised her until she was eighteen, when she moved to the United States. Lolita’s strength never wavered during her ups and downs in life. She had the “ability to deal with difficult situations and find the positive side to them,” a genuine testimony of someone who believes in herself and others.

After moving to the United States, Lolita met and married Pasquale Anastasio and had three boys, Carlo, AlejAndro, and Esteban, all of whom have gone to college, celebrating successful lives in their own right. She took the time to raise her children before entering the workforce in the late 1970’s, working as a teacher’s assistant in a bilingual education department in Indiana. She worked closely with the Hispanic community and migrant families, raising $165,000 for a new day-care center in South Bend. She helped find and renovate a building for the day-care that became El Camino Litte Camp. She also took part in creating a GED program for parents to attend, organizing and developing many activities.

Lolita is a tireless advocate for others, drawing from the strength of being proud of who she is. “See it, feel it, and it’s genuine,” she says in regard to her Hispanic heritage. Lolita speaks Spanish, Italian, and English, a valuable asset as she works on so many projects that bring communities together. Lolita is a bridge, paving the way for people to connect and understand each other. She has worked hard to help others and has served the community in a variety of roles. She has been a past board member of several different committees: the Minority Business Development Council, Hispanics in Politics, and Habitat for Humanity. Some of her present organizations include Campesinos Unidos de Idaho, Idahoans for Farm Worker Minimum Wage, Helping Hand, and Mujeres Unidas de Idaho.

As a “bridge” of sorts to others, it’s a bit ironic that Lolita started her own construction company in 1987; it was not everyday at that time that a female started her own company, let alone a non-traditional one such as construction. However when she gets her mind set on something, she achieves it through hard work and perseverance. So starting a business was just another goal for her to reach.

She named her business Adiva, Inc., a curb and gutter, sidewalks and driveway installation company. It wouldn’t be long for her to become a union sub-contractor in search of female laborers, finishers, and forewomen to help lead her in her endeavors. “Women have the potential to be fantastic administrators,” she adds. “It has always been in her nature to educate and empower those around her, thus paving the way for others to follow, especially women.

By 1997, she had moved to Idaho, earning a position with Head Start-Friends of Children and Families in Mt. Home as a family advocate. And as someone who has dedicated her life to helping people, she wanted to pursue her efforts in the support service industry. She continued fundraising, supporting and encouraging low-income women and families in need, assisting them with educational, medical, and housing opportunities. “The more you inform them, then they can become their own leaders. If you educate, you empower,” she says in regard to the women she supports.

And empower is just what Lolita does for these individuals. In 1999, Lolita was offered a position with the Idaho Women’s Network, she was hired as the project organizer. This position required the knowledge and assistance in structuring social and economic justice projects that bring communities together. Lolita is a tireless advocate for others, bringing the problems to light to help others find solutions.

### Planned Parenthood of Idaho

Planned Parenthood of Idaho (PPI) is a private, non-profit agency that works to ensure access to high quality, affordable reproductive health care through direct medical service, education, and advocacy.
in the areas of poverty, welfare reform, child care, and wage inequities, thus increasing a woman's democratic participation in target communities in Idaho. By 2000, she had secured the position of associate director, achieving yet another plateau in her many honors.

She has established herself as a great communicator and as someone who accepts people for who they are: she believes in human rights and will lead the way for others. When asked about how she deals with adversity, she comments, "You have to believe in yourself, then others will believe in your cause."

She continues to advocate for others, encouraging people to achieve their goals and dreams, instilling a level of drive in her own family. Four young grandchildren look up to their abuela, watching her intently, sowing the seeds of leadership. It is her path and presence that will inspire greatness from each one of them.

Winnie Tong

By Teresa Lips. Teresa majored in English, technical communication emphasis, with a minor in Spanish at Boise State University. She interned as the newsletter producer for Boise State's Women's Center during the Fall 2002 semester, and earned her bachelor's degree in December 2002.

Winnie Tong, a 23-year-old international student at Boise State University, received two nominations for Women Making History because she is a role model, a student advocate, and a leader. Winnie mentors women returning to college, assists with teaching and research, brings student concerns to the Associated Students of Boise State University as an ASBSU senator, and still manages to excel academically.

Winnie first came to the United States from Hong Kong at age 17 as a foreign exchange student. Although her family worried about her leaving, they were very proud that, out of eight million students, she was one of only 60 students selected to bring their culture overseas. Although Winnie knew some English at the time, she struggled with both the culture and the language. She laughs about her first flight to the United States. "They gave me a bagel and I didn’t know how to eat it. And then they asked me, 'How would you like your coffee?' and I said, 'In a cup.' Although learning a new culture can be daunting, Winnie has certainly adjusted to her new life here.

During her year as an exchange student in Dustin, Florida, Winnie's host mom and brother, who became a second family to her, took her traveling around the Southeast. She saw her first football game in Mississippi, toured Alabama, and was introduced to crawfish in the French Quarter of New Orleans. Winnie believes that people should travel whenever they can and see how big the world is before they make judgments. She insists, "You don’t really know how good a place is until you see lots of places."

When Winnie finished high school in Florida she went back to Hong Kong to work, making good money with her advanced English skills. However, after eight months she decided that she wanted to be a doctor. The most affordable choice for American schools was Western Wyoming Community College in Rock Springs, so she applied, received a scholarship, and returned to the United States. In Wyoming Winnie met many other international students who had also chosen college for its affordability. They got together often and became close; she still keeps in touch with people that she met there. The school helped her to push herself; she took 25 credits per semester and got her associate degree in three semesters, and ever since has remained that focused.

After community college, Winnie made a Christmas visit to Hong Kong, and then left for Boise State University in the spring of 2001. She struggled her first semester with the difficult pre-med program because she was still getting acclimated to everything, and she didn’t know anyone. However, she was honored when she got hired in the International Admissions Office.

After only 11 months at Boise State many classmates and international students, impressed by Winnie's focus and enthusiasm, encouraged her to run for ASBSU senate. She is very grateful to, and touched by, all the people who have been supporting her as a senator, and takes her work as senator to heart, "I cry on the table, I laugh on the table. I'm here representing students. If I fail, I didn't meet my promise to students. So, how should I report back? If you're trying to table something, you have to let me know why. Is there a better way to do it? I'm learning here: we're all learning."

In her first term as senator, Winnie Tong helped allocate funds for the Cultural Center, the Women's Center, and International Programs. Because diversity and cultural issues have always been her first concern, she promotes events that help international students feel connected in the Boise State community; it's important to her that all students have a sense of belonging. Concerned about students' opportunities to study, Winnie convinced the library administration to experiment with keeping the library open 24 hours per day during finals week. She helped arrange the necessary security, and also requested free coffee from Free Fist for the students. This project provides students with a quiet place to study regardless of their work schedules and living arrangements.

Winnie is a young woman with great integrity. When asked which accomplishment she is most proud of, Winnie responds, "Being a senator. No, being a good senator, because anyone can become a senator, if you want to be a good one, you have to work hard, I'm happy that I've heard good things about my work...."

When Winnie graduates from Boise State, she will postpone medical school. She explains, "I need to go back to Hong Kong to see my family first. I have been gone almost five years. That would be very selfish to walk away and be gone for ten years. And my culture expects me to be with my family. My family is everything to me. I want to give my 110-year-old brother the same opportunity that I have, if he wants to come over. I'm his role model.

Who knows where Winnie’s passion and hard work will lead her? But, because she was re-elected for ASBSU senate in November 2002, for now the university community continues to benefit from her leadership and her advocacy of student concerns; she creates programs and environments that ease the way for others, and fights for those who otherwise might not have a voice. With her optimism, energy, and compassion, Winnie Tong is sure to continue being a Woman Making History.

Judy Cross, M.S.N.

By Janelle Brown. Janelle is a writer, musician and outdoors enthusiast who works as a public information officer at Boise State University.

Judy Cross isn't out to save the world. She just wants to make it a better place to live in, one caring step at a time.

"Helping to make a difference is a continual source of energy for me," Judy says. "It inspires me to stay involved and to keep working." Judy is a writer, musician and outdoors enthusiast who works as a public information officer at Boise State University. She interned as the newsletter producer for Boise State's Women's Center during the Fall 2002 semester, and earned her bachelor's degree in December 2002.

"The clinical nurse specialist for Women's Services at St. Luke's Regional Medical Center, Judy was a pioneer in recognizing postpartum depression as a serious illness that required medical intervention. After researching what was then a little-understood condition, she helped establish a nationally recognized screening and care program at St. Luke's in 1991. Judy's work to educate the medical establishment and the public about postpartum depression earned her the respect of colleagues and the gratitude of many women. So did her 23 years as coordinator and original developer of the hospital's NICU (newborn intensive care unit) follow-up clinic.

But Judy's work at St. Luke's is just the beginning of what she's accomplished. She is also a member of the Ada County Domestic Violence Task Force, the Southwest Idaho Perinatal Substance Abuse Coalition, the Breastfeeding Community Task Force, the Healthy Pregnancy Program Advisory Board and many other advocacy groups. She previously served on the Governor's Council for Infant and Toddler Programs, the Planned Parenthood board of directors, the Healthy Families Advisory Council and the United Cerebral Palsy board of directors.

Judy also serves on the board of directors of the Ada County Human Rights Task Force, and is a chair and board member for Idaho Voices of Diversity.

"Judy sets such a standard that if we all did even one tenth of what she does to help her fellow human beings the world would be an incredible place for everyone and not just a few," wrote Lesley Goranson in a letter nominating Judy for this recognition.

"I am very much the type of person who believes respect and admiration go to one who walks the walk, and doesn't just talk the talk," Goranson added. "Judy unstintingly gives of herself wherever she is called."

Judy shrugs off such accolades, preferring to simply get things done with full attention to herself. At 5 feet tall, this fifty-something grandmother is anything but pretentious. But ask her about some of her activities, and it's clear why, as Goranson writes, Judy "casts a giant shadow."

There was, for example, the cancer patient at St. Luke's whose biggest dream was to walk his daughter down the aisle. When his prognosis worsened, his daughter decided to move up her wedding date, and the staff at St. Luke's offered their chapel for the ceremony. After
Putting in a full day on the job, Judy stayed up all night making the wedding bouquet, corsages, boutonnieres and various displays that transformed the conference room into a reception hall. Her volunteer efforts helped make the event both beautiful and memorable.

Then there was Judy's efforts when the anti-gay Westboro Baptist Church came to Boise last July to picket the gay community center and several local churches because of their perceived support of gay rights. Judy volunteered to serve as an "angel" in the manner of the Matthew Shepard supporters, who acted as a buffer when the same church protested at Shepard's funeral in Laramie, Wyo. Dressed in "angel wings" made out of PVC pipe, shower curtains and rainbow decorations, Judy joined others in a non-confrontational display in front of the picketed community center and churches.

Another example of Judy's caring is her ongoing work with women who suffer postpartum depression. She takes much of her personal time to talk to them and to make sure that they get the help they need from physicians, psychologists, social workers, or other community programs. Years after helping one woman who was severely depressed after the death of one child and the birth of another that was disabled, Judy encountered the woman, who thanked her for saving her life. Judy will never know how many other women survived a debilitating depression because of her assistance.

A driving force in Judy's efforts is her deep-seated belief in the intrinsic worth of all humans. Her personal life journey has helped shape that belief. A critical juncture occurred when her husband informed Judy, then a graduate student with four young children, that he believed he was gay. Rather than divorce, the couple decided they would remain partners and raise their family. Judy remained supportive as her husband faced a number of challenges because of his sexual orientation. Three years ago, the couple held a special church ceremony to dissolve their wedding vows and affirm their lives as lifelong soul friends. With their grown children living in the Treasure Valley, they retain strong family ties.

Ask Judy about the future, and she envisions an inclusive world. "I'd like to see people of all races, creeds, abilities, sexual orientations and genders, including our transgendered friends, seen as equal among us all," she says. "I'd like to see people be sensitive and kind to each other."

Judy believes that everyone has something to contribute. By personal example, she demonstrates just how much can be done.

**Christina Van Tol**

By Kelly Morse. Kelly is an English and Spanish major, which makes for interesting conversations. She is also the program assistant for the Boise State Women's Center, which mirrors her passion for women's issues in the rest of her life. She has studied in Spain, lived in five different states, and plans on writing and traveling more as her life progresses.

It is often said that one must be inspired in order to inspire others. Christina Van Tol is an interesting mixture of humility and guts, determination and intelligence. Enriched in the inner workings of student athletics as the Senior Woman Administrator and Senior Associate Athletic Director for Boise State Athletics, her actions nonetheless reverberate throughout the entire athletic department. Christina believes in going the extra mile in her work and life, and she accomplishes both with a quiet grace.

Christina takes on the idea of family wholeheartedly, whether it is in the form of her own husband and children or student athletes. "Athletics can be a kind of family, if done right," she says. Like a family member, she personally invests her time to ensure that students can participate in Boise State sports and have a good university experience. "There are times when, depending on a student's need, just the basics are not good enough. If an athlete's father dies, there's more to my job than just getting him to the airport."

Indeed, it's this determination to show that she cares that leads to Christina's open-door policy. "Any and all can come and talk to her - that's what a team is all about. Her manner of listening and helping to empower her staff and faculty requires intricate footwork. She bases her management style on a team concept. She believes "we all bring something to the table." She is also very conscious of her role at the University - "I feel my main reason for being here is to help student athletes grow and develop."

A very humble Christian, Christina fights for her students with a calm integrity. In the case of one athlete, Christina found he was declared ineligible by the NCAA the month before the beginning of his freshman year. He had a full Boise State athletic scholarship. With the determination that defines her, Christina made over 100 calls in less than a month and a half until the matter was straightened out. "I felt so confident that this person deserved a college education. The NCAA has a lot of rules, and sometimes technologies can hang an athlete up. He was being beaten down by the system."

It's cases like this that make Christina inspired to work each day and make sure that every athlete's case is being processed fairly. She will go through medical records, make phone calls, and write letters, all to be a good advocate for the student. Her work directly affects both students' lives and their ability to perform their jobs as well as she does hers. Her idea of a legacy is truly caring enough about students.

As the highest-ranking female administrator in the department, she once again stresses the idea of teamwork and partnership. She is always looking ahead to the goal, one of which is being fair to all-student athletes, staff, faculty and parents. Even in an area like athletics, one that has been traditionally male-dominated, Christina has no problem speaking her mind, and she feels that the athletic director and department as a whole supports her. She will go out of her way to protect anyone with a true case. "If they deserve it, I will fight for it."

Although very laid back in person, there is a steady intensity behind her words. This is a woman who lives with conviction, and believes that life is a gift from God and should be honored as such. A woman who grew up in an athletic family, she often looks at situations from the position of a team-member - on a team that's going to win a championship. She's not afraid to face the clock and drive herself forward: "You refuse to give up. I think that too often instead of people digging down they simply stop. You need to keep digging."

Through a position of caring and empowerment Christina has built a network of people who know that she will examine each situation with compassion. Christina is quick to point out that. "My role is a supporting role for student-athletes; if they're not here, I'm not here." However, many of these students would be unable to be at Boise State today if she had not taken the extra time to fight for their cases. In the end it's a classic example of everyone supporting each other. As Christina would say, "That's what a team is all about."
Maria Gonzalez Mabbutt

By Kelly Morse. Kelly is an English and Spanish major, which makes for interesting conversations. She is also the program assistant for the Boise State Women’s Center, which mirrors her passion for women’s issues in the rest of her life. She has studied in Spain, lived in five different states, and plans on writing and traveling more as her life progresses.

Maria Gonzalez Mabbutt is a very busy woman and an inspiration to all who know her. When not working at her self-made business, she can be found at the offices for the Latino Vote Project, leading discussions at her church, playing with her four year old daughter, or promoting the rights of migrant farm workers. A woman who has worked hard her entire life, Maria has chosen a unique position where her activities promote change in her community. A tireless advocate, she uses her inner strength to help others.

“You can’t give someone power, and you can’t take it. Each of us has power: some of us are unaware of it, some are not sure how to use it. The key is to help others learn this so they can make their own choices.”

Maria is sure to “always emphasize education.” Learning takes many forms, including the public’s right-to-know about their responsibilities and rights as citizens. In 2002 she was contracted to head The Latino Vote Project, which incorporates a 20-year old passion of voter registration for the Hispanic community.

“In order to ensure that change comes about, political involvement is important. I’ve always believed in getting education to the community and youth. Right now we have clear older leaders in their forties and fifties. However, we’re ready to show potential leaders in their twenties and thirties. A lot of our really great young talent leaves Idaho when so much could be done here. We need to be training young people for leadership positions.”

Maria is one to put her money where her mouth is. She is currently setting up a contract with Western States Center, a progressive group that selects activists to become core trainers for leadership programs that involve community organizing. Through this training she in turn can teach younger generations how to become great leaders.

“For most of my life I’ve worked really hard at overcoming the feeling of being inferior, because I am a woman and a person of color,” says Maria. She moves forward and her face takes on a look of determination as she speaks.

“I really do believe in ‘we have been created equal’ and ‘justice for all.’ We say certain things in America, but they’re hollow in a certain sense. Sometimes people have to work ten times as hard just to prove that they are equal.”

She pauses, and then notes, “As a woman, a Latina, and a mother of four daughters I am very aware of inequalities. A white woman earns 76 cents to a white man’s dollar, and a woman of color only 54 cents. We need to be aware of such things, and after we’re aware, work for change.”

Social and personal change has fueled Maria’s lifestyle and careers since she toiled with her parents as a migrant worker in Rupert, Idaho. “I always wanted an education, even as a child.” In her thirties she attended Boise State University, although it was hard to make ends meet: “I was a single mom with three girls, but we were a team. I always told you, ‘You need to have a degree.’ As a woman of color and as a former migrant worker it (getting a degree) was tough but rewarding.”

Her drive to educate herself and others in her community led her to take a variety of positions, including Social Security, Public Affairs Specialist to conduct Hispanic community outreach and holding office as the first president for Mujeres Unidas de Idaho (United Women of Idaho).

“I always wanted to utilize my talents and energies in Idaho because so much is needed here. The Hispanic community is the largest ethnic population in this state, yet we are behind in opportunities compared to states like Washington and Oregon,” she notes.

Support of Latinos, plus her own talents, led her to create Power of Translation, a one woman company where she acts as both translator and interpreter on paper and at court. She often plays the role of consultant on how to market to and reach the Hispanic community of Idaho.

However, it is her activism that gains her recognition: “I think I’ve perceived as one of the political Latinos in Idaho. I feel my greatest contribution was helping create an agenda on changes needed in Idaho law for migrant workers.”

After half a lifetime of striving for a myriad of goals Maria is starting to relax. Her husband Richard helps her slow down and assess her priorities: “I am focusing on things I really want to do.”

Now she is starting to exert her energies on fewer tasks, but is more intent upon her work for the Hispanic community. “My husband uses the example of diffuse light. The same amount of energy needed to light a room can be focused into the single beam of a laser. And a laser can cut through steel.”

Maria focuses on Latino voter registration and issues for farm workers, but now also takes the time for reflection and personal happiness. “Too many of us are doing things we don’t like because of fear. I gave up fear some time ago: I believe faith is a much stronger power.”

Dr. Ginna Husting

By Melissa Winthrow. Melissa is the coordinator of the Boise State Women’s Center. She earned her bachelor’s degree in English at Miami University and her master’s degree in education at the University of Georgia. A professor of sociology at Boise State University, it comes as no surprise that Dr. Ginna Husting shows an appreciation for the complexities of life, constantly intrigued by the push and pull of the processes of personal growth and education. For those who know her, her inquisitiveness and unyielding commitment to the examined life is admirable.

As a Woman Making History she recognizes that “we all make history, most often in small ways, in the ways we interact with and treat others, and through our commitment to educating ourselves and others as we travel down our life paths.”

“We can either do it mindlessly or mindfully; but we do it either way,” she stresses. “So I believe that the unexamined life, while perhaps worth living, represents in some sense a lack of commitment to oneself, one’s community, and one’s world. Likewise, continual reflection, and the ability to listen to and empathize with others, even for especially, if we don’t agree with them, is a fundamental part of that process.”

Ginna’s ability to empathize was nurtured at a very young age by a mother who instilled in her the values of fairness and justice. As Ginna reflects, “my mother raised me with humor and taught me to ask lots of questions and think critically about the world and people in it.”

Ginna conjures up a childhood memory where that inquisitiveness surfaced and challenged her young but thoughtful mind: “I was about 5 or 6 years old and have this memory of sitting in the backseat of our car listening to the radio. As we bounced along, jostled by the bumps in the road, I listened intently to a news broadcast about the conflict in Ireland. I remember asking my mother, ‘why were these people in the name of religion killing each other? Bombing each other?’ I couldn’t make sense of the hatred and unfairness of it.” As Ginna chuckled a bit at her reflection, she remembered thinking, “I had this image of myself standing on a street bench, a little girl, arms extended outward, screaming, stop it! As if I, a small child, could stop the violence.”

Nurtured to be a critical thinker at a young age, Ginna was disillusioned with the formal schooling she received until about the tenth grade when her mother pulled her out of a school that was deflating Ginna’s self concept and curiosity. Her mother located a different school where Ginna finally thrived in the presence of teachers who challenged her thinking and nurtured her spirit. She fondly remembers a tenth grade history teacher that “pumped [her] up just as I was falling.” He challenged her to think critically, ask questions and find solutions: an approach that turned education into an exciting journey rather than drudgery.

After high school, she went to Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, Florida, chosen mainly “because it started out (in the 60’s) as an alternative school (much like Evergreen) with pass/fail grades. True to form she continues, “Actually I chose it because of the library: students had been asked to decorate the pillars of the mausoleum, and I thought that was incredibly cool (a prominent Beatles quote made my decision). I figured a college that allowed for creative expression in the LIBRARY had to be cool.” She holds the faculty there in high esteem and credits them for continuing to instill in her the importance of self-exploration and community service.

While Ginna Husting is a woman who has been inspired and affected by many people living their lives “mindfully,” she gives no credit to any heroes in her life “in part because the more I learn about people, the more I realize we all have strengths and weaknesses and blindspots.” “For me, heroification is a form of ‘black and white’ thinking in which we exalt certain individuals (a great book by James Cone, for example) and demonize others. Instead, I have LOTS of people I admire greatly.”

Among some of the more famous names that bring her inspiration are Toni Morrison, MLK Jr., Frank Church, Darnay Haraway, Michel Foucault, Judith Butler (the academic superhero collection), Eleanor
Roosevelt, the Guerrilla Girls, many, many students, Wendy Morgan (an amazing organizer in Boise), Gaylord Walls and Sam Byrd (incredible teachers) both of whose work on diversity inspires me. Urushi Vaid, Adrienne Rich (whose poetry is amazing), Sherman Alexie, Hoy Harjo (Idaho poetry), Seamus Heaney, Arundhati Roy, and the list goes on.

No doubt Ginna is on someone else’s list as someone who is admired, someone who inspires others, but she humbly reflects on her passions in life and shrugs off any praise for herself. She is a grounded person, but constantly on the go, with an office that is littered with papers and books. Students who come to her small office to engage in mindful conversation have to look closely behind a mound of papers on a desk cluttered with toys and ‘junk.’ However, this makes her more approachable, somehow. A quirky, honest person with enough energy for two people, she delights students and colleagues with her pure humanness as she strives to serve her community and create constructive learning experiences.

Genna has dedicated her life to education. “Education, literacy, and creating community are, I believe, VITAL to democratic culture,” she notes. “And all of these things start with us claiming our education, our(ing) creativity and community where we are now. My commitment to education and to the practice of pedagogy, is inextricably bound to my conviction that social justice and human rights are indispensable to the present and future of ourselves and our world. And of course, without an understanding of our past, and how that has shaped our beliefs, values and practices in ways difficult to recognize, we cannot get social justice and foster human rights.”

A woman of vision, when asked how she would change the world if she could, Ginna reflected that she would hope we would commit ourselves (from first to last) to bring our world (with all human rights in mind), according to the UN’s Declaration of Human Rights, which declares that everyone has the right to right employment, a quality of life wage, social services, full social protection, the right to be heard and speak their truth, and education that develops human personality and develops respect for freedoms and human rights. Of course, many of these ‘fundamental’ human rights are currently withheld from many both across the world and in the United States.

Beverly Pressman, M.A.
By Tracy Petering
Tracy is a returning student at Boise State. She is an English major and theatre arts minor who hopes to teach secondary education in the Bush of Alaska someday.

How does one go from being a teacher to helping immigrant farm workers with eye problems to organizing a weeklong bike ride for Alzheimer’s disease? If you are Beverly Pressman, it’s the vision and ability to make the most of a progression of circumstances and challenges to make a difference in the lives of others: “As you live each day, so you live your life.”

Beverly started her professional career as an elementary school teacher in Oregon, married to an ophthalmologist. She left teaching to help her husband in his office as a medical manager. While working in his office she realized that when children are unable to read, many times the first place parents look for answers is the eye doctor.

Beverly left that if the educational community and the eye professionals in the medical community partnered with each other, they could proactively support families with reading problems. She convinced her husband, a pediatric ophthalmologist, and the national pediatric literacy program, “Reach Out and Read,” to let her coordinate a pilot program for the first time in pediatric ophthalmology. Now in its fifth year, this program is successfully encouraging parents to read to their children, providing children with books, and leading efforts to expand the program to other pediatric clinical sites in the Boise area.

While working with parents and families, Beverly came to understand the need for parents to receive parenting tips as well as information about support services within the community. This led her to coordinate a major effort through the United Way’s Success by 6 Initiative. With the help of over thirty community professionals she wrote, as her master’s thesis, “Children Do Come With Directions.”

It has been such a popular resource book that it is now published in Spanish as well as English. Beverly is enjoying extending her work internationally with families, children, literacy, and eye care. During a Rotary service trip three years ago with Project Amigo in Colima, Mexico, Beverly and her husband were involved in eye care and education of a migrant farm working community. She was aware of large numbers of immigrant farm workers in Idaho shared similar eye problems seen in Mexico, eye problems caused by continued exposure to the wind, dust, and sun. The problems persisted without preventative measures, such as wearing brimmed hats and sunglasses. To reach local workers, she enlisted the help of friends in Lion’s Club, Rotary, and the Boise State School of Nursing. She helped establish the program now in its third year and it is known as “The Idaho Hispanic Wellness Initiative Project.” Beverly and her husband are expanding their international work in Mexico. Through the Northwest Medical Teams, Beverly is helping coordinate a medical eye team traveling in April to Oaxaca, Mexico.

In her free time, Beverly loves to spend time with family and friends, especially sharing outdoor sports and adventures. One of these activities, bicycling, led her to organize the first Western U.S. Alzheimer’s Research Benefit Bicycle Ride, “A Ride to Remember.” Motivated by her father’s diagnosis with Alzheimer’s and supported by the Alzheimer’s Association, she led a highly successful weeklong ride from Boise to Portland in July 2002.

With a spirit that won’t stop and a laugh that comes from her heart, Beverly is starting a new chapter in her life. Her last child launched into college, she is now enjoying the time she and her husband can spend together. They went biking through the Czech Republic and Italy early this past fall, and recently returned from a long kayaking trip along Baja. Although retired from medical management, she is still involved with “Reach Out and Read” and international projects, still loving to bring people successfully together to address challenges.

A quiet hero to many, when asked where she finds inspiration and who some of her heroes are, Beverly thought for a long time and started to smile as she reflected on a woman who was learning to read years ago in a class she taught. The woman’s husband didn’t like the idea of her learning to read and would sabotage her car to prevent her from going to class. One day on her way to class, the woman was faced with a consistent challenge to keep her car running. At almost every stoplight, the car died; she had to get out each time and fix it to get it started again. It took her almost an hour and a half to get from Mendon to Boise, but nothing would stop her. It is not surprising that Beverly, a woman of passion and persistence, would find inspiration in an ordinary woman’s struggle to achieve under extraordinary odds.

By bringing people together to find logical solutions, Beverly brings the world into focus for many of us. As her nominator notes, “Beverly is one of the most amazing women I know. I love her energy, her spirit and her love for all the people of the world. Her love is evident and her spirit emanates from her actions. Beverly is making history as she lives each day and touches each life.”

Emma Edwards Green
Idaho has the only Great Seal designed by a woman - Emma Edwards Green. She was honored for her design on March 5, 1891. Source: Idaho Blue Book

The question of Woman Suffrage was being agitated somewhere and as leading men and politicians agreed that Idaho would eventually give women the right to vote, and as mining was the chief industry, and the mining men the largest financial factor of the state at that time. I made the figure of the man the most prominent in the design, while that of the woman, signifying justice, as noted by the scales, liberty, as denoted by the liberty cap on the end of the spear, and equality with man as denoted by her position at his side, also signifies freedom.

— Emma Edwards Green

For more information and outrageous facts visit www.whydon'tyouknow.com
WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Tuesday, March 4
Women's Crafts: Agency for New Americans and 10,000 Villages. Also on Wednesday, March 5
Student Union Firepace Lounge. 10am-2pm
Display of crafts made by local new Americans from Afghanistan, items for display and purchase. They will be joined by 10,000 Villages store with items for purchase from around the world.

Daughter of Dr. O'Brien presented by Student Programs Board Student Union Special Events Center 8pm
A film about a Vietnamese mother and her American daughter who are reunited after 22 years. Both have dreamed of a joyful reunion but their hopes are shattered as cultural differences and the years of separation take their toll.

Wednesday, March 5
Imagining the Homelost Representation of Blacks and P Ts in Chicago Literature presented by Ailsa Garza, Boise State faculty Student Union Farnsworth Room Noon-1pm
Discussion of how Chicano gang members are portrayed in Chicano literature, issues of beauty and gender are among some of the topics that will be discussed. Presented by Ailsa Garza, an associate professor of Spanish in the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures at Boise State University.

Thursday, March 6
Dr. Beth V. Perry, Peoria State University, co-sponsored by Hewlett-Packard and Boise State Cultural Center Special Events Center 7pm
See the award-winning entertainer, lecturer and comedian, Dr. Perry was the host and co-executive producer of her own nationally syndicated talk show, and hosted USA Live. She's been featured on numerous other television programs including appearances on The Oprah Winfrey Show, The Tonight Show, The Tonight Show with Jay Leno, and The Ellen Show with Ellen DeGeneres.

Saturday, March 8
International Women's Day Celebration sponsored by the Agency for New Americans (ANA)
Le Cote De France. 201 S. Capital Blvd. 11am-230pm
Join us for the 3rd annual fundraising celebration of International Women's Day. This year's event will include a refreshment table of multi-ethnic food and silent auction featuring items donated by local artisans. A $15 ticket may be pre-purchased at ANA by calling 338-0003 ext. 27 or at the door. Final bidding is open to the general public beginning at 2pm.

Dr. Performance Series featuring Elena Yohash Special Events Center. 8pm
Tickets available through Select-A-Seat. 426-1494
Finish violinist Elena Yohash won first prize in the 1999 Young Concert Artists International Audition, as well as a Barenreiter Prize for the Best Historical Performance for Strings.

Monday, March 10
Presented by Sandy Schackel, associate professor of women's history. American West popular culture of which this piece is part of current research, "I want You: I Need You: I Love You," a historical and a film on the making of the 1950s American woman.

Thursday, March 13
Blazing a Path to the Future: Gender Studies on the Boise State University Campus Student Union Labora Room 3:15-4:30pm
The Women's Studies Program is attempting to change its name to the Gender Studies Program and expand its focus to include broader issues of gender and sexuality. The event will feature a panel discussion, "The History of Gender Studies at Boise State University," facilitated by Dr. Lisa McClain, associate professor of sociology and cultural studies, and Dr. Shelley Lucas, chair of the Women's Studies Advisory Board and assistant professor of sociology.

Friday, March 14
National Women's History Month Women's History Exhibit, March 7 - April 14 Boise State University Gallery 7pm
From 350 entries submitted by 16 artists, 12 artists were selected for the final exhibit. The exhibit is open to the public.

Monday, March 17
Women and Peace Student Union Labora Room 7pm
Join us for an in-depth look at women's activism in the peace movement in both the past and present. Why should women be involved in maintaining peace? How can we get involved? The event will feature a panel discussion, "Women and Peace," presented by Dr. Angie Blair, adjunct professor of sociology and women's studies at Boise State University, and Debra Atkinson, director of Women's Studies at Saint Mary's College of California.

The following events are part of the 2003 National Women's History Month at Boise State University. The events are free and open to the public. For more information, call 287-4020.