

Wyoming Council for Women's Issues  
c/o Wyoming Business Council  
214 West 15th Street  
Cheyenne, WY 82002

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Just Released! NWBC Fact Sheet on  
Latinas and Entrepreneurship

In recognition of National Hispanic  
Heritage Month in September, the  
National Women's Business Council  
(NWBC) has compiled a fact sheet about  
Latina business owners in the United  
States.

The information is available at  
[www.nwbc.gov/keyfacts/documents/hispanicfactsheet.pdf](http://www.nwbc.gov/keyfacts/documents/hispanicfactsheet.pdf). (If your browser has  
any problems opening this document, visit  
[www.nwbc.gov](http://www.nwbc.gov). The document is under  
the "What's New" section.)

The NWBC hopes the information is  
useful and encourages people to consider  
it for inclusion in articles, newsletters or  
other communications.

The NWBC is a bi-partisan federal  
advisory council created to serve as an  
independent source of advice and policy  
recommendations to the President,  
Congress, and the U.S. Small Business  
Administration on economic issues of  
importance to women business owners.

The Council's mission is to promote  
bold initiatives, policies and programs  
designed to support women's business  
enterprises at all stages of development in  
the public and private sector, from start-up  
to success to significance.

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National Women's Hall of Fame  
Announces 2003 Inductees

On Saturday, Oct. 4, 2003, the National  
Women's Hall of Fame inducted twelve  
extraordinary women into the hall. The  
induction ceremony took place in historic  
Seneca Falls, NY, birthplace of women's  
rights and site of the first women's rights  
convention in 1848.

"It is our great privilege and pleasure to  
honor these 12 outstanding American  
women. This group represents one of the  
most diverse ever inducted into the hall,"  
said Clotilde Perez-Bode Dedecker,  
President of the Board of Directors.

2003 Inductees:

Linda G. Alvarado, Donna De Varona,  
Gertrude Ederle, Martha Matilda Harper,  
Patricia Roberts Harris, Stephanie Kwolek,  
Dorothea Lange, Mildred Robbins Leet,  
Anne Sullivan Macy, Sacagawea, Patsy  
Takemoto Mink and Sheila Widnall.

Sacagawea (C. 1790 - ?) A Shoshone  
woman who served as a guide to Lewis  
and Clark during their exploration of the  
American west, Sacagawea's knowledge  
and heritage were valuable tools in dealing  
with obstacles encountered as the expedi-  
tion moved westward. The only woman in  
the party, she served not only as an inter-  
preter, and food and medicine expert, but  
also as an ambassador when dealing with  
other native Americans.

The National Women's Hall of Fame is a  
national membership organization recog-  
nizing and celebrating the achievements of  
individual American women.

One hundred and ninety-five women  
have been inducted since the hall's found-  
ing in 1969. Learn more about the  
Women's Hall of Fame by visiting  
[www.greatwomen.org](http://www.greatwomen.org).



#### Wyoming Woman of Distinction Announced

The Wyoming Council for Women's Issues  
(WCWI) presented Cindy Knight of Jackson the  
2003 Wyoming Woman of Distinction Award at the  
Wyoming Women's Conference on Saturday, Sept.  
13 in Casper.

Knight was born and raised in Casper,  
Wyoming. She graduated from the University of  
Wyoming in 1974 with a bachelor's degree in  
social work. She continued her education at  
Florida State University where she earned a mas-  
ter's degree in family and marriage counseling.

Since 1992, she has served as director of the  
Van Vleck Group Home, which provides preven-  
tion, early intervention and treatment programs for  
the youth of Teton County and the surrounding  
area.

In 1996, as president of the Wyoming Youth  
Services Association (WYSA), she was instrumen-  
tal in development and adoption of levels of care  
and standards for youth housing, as well as crisis  
shelter planning. On the National Marriage and  
Family Therapy Association, Cindy served as pres-  
ident-elect in 1997-1998, as president in 1999-  
2000 and as secretary/treasurer during the 2001-  
2002 year.

Nominees for the Woman of Distinction Award  
are those who have had a significant impact on  
women and families in Wyoming with regard to  
education, community, health and legal issues.  
Nominations remain current for three years.

The 2003 nominees were:

Marcia Dale - Cheyenne  
Jeanne Haakinson - Gillette  
Sharon Humberson - Lingle  
Ann Gapen - Cheyenne  
Cindy Knight - Jackson  
April Brimmer Kunz - Cheyenne  
Linda Melcher - Laramie  
Lisa Velker - Cody  
Julie Lehman - Laramie  
Kathy Wright - Cheyenne

#### Thousands Run in the Race for the Cure

The annual Wyoming Race for the Cure, which raises money for breast can-  
cer research and screening, drew nearly 3,000 people from around the region,  
bettering last year's total by about 500.

Funds raised through the Wyoming Race for the Cure have gone to such  
organizations as the Women's Connection Breast Cancer Project at the Albany  
County Family Planning Service and the Planned Parenthood of Wyoming  
Breast Cancer Screening and Education Project.

Since its inception in 1982 the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation  
has raised more than \$400 million for the fight against breast cancer.

Race Results:  
Survivor Overall Winners  
1st: Bev Veals, Time: 22:00  
2nd: Carolyn Young, Time: 33:03  
3rd: Cheryl Omalley, Time: 37:24

Survivor Master (Age 40-59)  
1st: Bev Veals, Time: 22:00  
2nd: Patty Bentsen, Time: 39:35

Survivor Senior (Age 60 plus)  
1st: Carolyn Young, Time: 33:03  
2nd: Loni Lucas, Time: 44:08

Overall Female Winners:  
1st: Emerald Reid, Time: 19:30  
2nd: Marlo Crosby Time: 20:03  
3rd: Sara Steiner, Time: 20:54

Overall Male Winners:  
1st: Erik Kean, Time: 15:25  
2nd: Trent Morrel, Time: 15:59  
3rd: Ragan Driver, Time: 16:19

Female 15 & Under  
1st: Katie Cook, Time: 22:48  
2nd: Wendy D'lexey, Time: 22:51  
3rd: Lisa Shipman, Time: 24:48  
4th: Kaylee Carlson, Time: 29:17

Female 16 -19  
1st: Sara Stacy, Time: 21:29  
2nd: Margeret Diller, Time: 22:11  
3rd: Layne Strannigan, Time: 22:49  
4th: Lindsay Huecrstaedt, Time: 22:50

Female 20-29  
1st: Elaine Rayback, Time: 21:19  
2nd: Sara Fry, Time: 21:35  
3rd: Kim Cullen, Time: 21:58  
4th: Andrea Gelardi, Time: 22:11

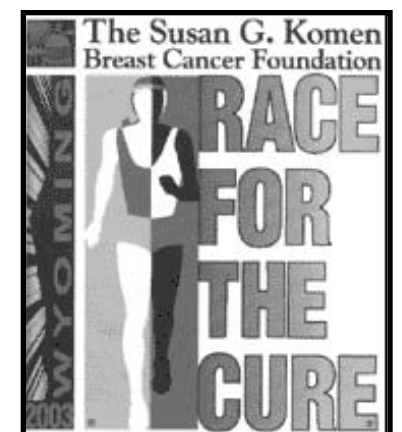
Female 30-39  
1st: Allison Morrell, Time: 21:06  
2nd: Debbie Moe Wes, Time:  
22:47  
3rd: Mary Hohnholt, Time: 24:11  
4th: Rhonda Fleener, Time: 24:50

Female 40-49  
1st: Edith Wilson, Time: 24:12  
2nd: Mary Bushkuhl, Time: 24:49  
3rd: Terry Cain, Time: 28:19  
4th: Sherri Kaufman, Time: 25:17

Female 50-59  
1st: Luanna Lahti, Time: 25:20  
2nd: Sandra Barstow, Time: 28:50  
3rd: Ester Mcgaun, Time: 29:07

Female 60-69  
1st: Carolyn Young, Time: 33:03  
2nd: Lzna Henman, Time: 40:04  
3rd: Loni Lucas, Time: 44:25

Female 70 & Over  
1st: Dorothy Bradley, Time: 27:46



What an exciting time for the women and women's groups in Wyoming to be involved with women's issues in Wyoming! I had the opportunity to meet various groups and women from all around the state this summer. Women's issues such as wage disparity, affordable quality child care, education, and health care are being discussed all around Wyoming as they relate to the women and children in Wyoming. The momentum is building, and there is a sense of urgency among groups and agencies involved in women's issues to begin to work together and communicate more than we have done in the past.

Just imagine how much more we can accomplish working together!

-- Michelle Aldrich  
Chair

WCWI Members  
Michelle Aldrich (Judicial District 2)  
Marty Coe (Judicial District 5)  
Teresa de Groh (At-large)  
Mary England (At-large)  
Sherrill Helzer (Judicial District 8)  
Cynthia Chavez Kelly (At-large)  
DaNece Koenigs (Judicial District 6)  
Cleo Medina (Judicial District 9)  
Dr. Margaret Pilch (Judicial District 4)  
Merna Rierson (Judicial District 7)  
Nina Romero-Caron (At-large)  
Safa Suleiman (Judicial District 1)  
Jan Torres (Judicial District 3)

Wyoming Business Council Liaison:  
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WCWI13@state.wy.us

Not on our newsletter  
Mailing List?

Email your mailing address to  
info@wyomingbusiness.org or call  
307.777.2800 and ask for MARKET-  
ING. The WCWI News is a quarterly  
print publication focused on news  
and information of value to women in  
Wyoming.

Longtime Volunteer Awarded Community Spirit Award

Excerpt from the Wyoming Tribune-Eagle.

Roslyne W. Kaufman, who has been active for many years in a wide variety of local community service activities, was chosen to receive the Wyoming Tribune-Eagle's sixth Annual Community Spirit Award.

Tribune-Eagle publisher, Michael McCracken, noted that Kaufman has the added distinction of being the first woman to receive the honor, which the newspaper awards each year to recognize the recipient's outstanding community spirit and service.

Asked about which of her many civic involvements have had the biggest impact on the community and of which she is most proud, Kaufman said it would have to be her involvement in the creation of the Cheyenne Community Clinic three years ago. The clinic provides primary health care to low-income Laramie County residents who have no medical insurance.

In 1985, Kaufman was named Wyoming Mother of the Year by American Mothers Inc. of New York after being nominated for the award by the Cheyenne Federation of Jewish Women.

Kaufman was also a founding board member for Needs Inc., Laramie County Attention Home and the local American Medical Center Cancer Research Group, now known as the Cancer Assistance Association.

Kaufman, who was born in Denver, has lived in Cheyenne for 72 years.

Poverty in America Increases for the Second Year in a Row

The number of people living in poverty in the United States increased for the second year in a row. According to Census Bureau data released Sept. 26., 1.7 million more people were classified as living below the poverty line in 2002 than during the previous year, for a total of 34.6 million people—including 12.1 million children—living in poverty.

The news was particularly bad for single mothers. Although only 20% of all families are headed by single mothers, half of all the families living in poverty are headed by single mothers. The poverty rate for female-headed households is three times that of all households. Additionally, one-fifth of all homes headed by working single mothers slide below the poverty line.

There was virtually no change in the wage gap between men and women's earnings, with women earning only 76.6 percent of what men earned. Even more troubling, recent data from the Congressional Budget Office indicate that the gap between the rich and poor has more than doubled from 1979 to 2000, making the disparity between the wealthy and the impoverished the largest since the 1930s.

The Census Bureau report also included data on the connection between education and poverty status. As expected, the numbers showed a striking correlation between lack of education and poverty. Only 4.6% of families in which the head of the household has a bachelor's degree live in poverty, while 26.9% of families in which the head of the household has less than a high school degree live in poverty.

UPCOMING

Spragg Film/Novel Due In 2004  
"An Unfinished Life," described as "A story of family and forgiveness set against a rugged Wyoming landscape," is scheduled for release in late all 2004. The screenplay is by Mark and Virginia Spragg (of Cody). Mark's novel of the same title will be published at the same time.. It's directed by Lasse Hallstrom and stars Robert Redford, Morgan Freeman, Jennifer Lopez and Josh Lucas.

Do you write funny? Join hundreds of humor writers at the 2004 Erma Bombeck Writers' Workshop (March 25-27, 2004) at the University of Dayton, Ohio. Faculty includes Jill Conner Browne (New York Times best-selling author), Karyl Miller (Emmy award-winning writer-producer), Bruce Cameron (syndicated humor columnist and New York Times best-selling author) and more than 20 others. <http://www.humorwriters.org>

October 2003  
October is Arts/Humanities month

10/24/03 - Friday 2003  
Wyoming Latina Conference  
Author Denise Chávez will serve as the keynote speaker at the conference's opening dinner at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 24, at the Holiday Inn in Cheyenne. Tickets are \$12 and are available by calling Vicki Medina at 634-2400. Chávez has received many awards for her works, most notably the Puerto del sol fiction award for "The Last of the Menu Girls" and the American book award for "Face of an Angel."

10/24 & 25 Friday, & Saturday, 2003  
The Wyoming Children's Society, in collaboration with Nicholson, Spencer & Associates and the University of Wyoming, is sponsoring two training workshops in Cheyenne at Little America. Register online: [www.nsatraininginstitute.org](http://www.nsatraininginstitute.org)

10/28 Tuesday, 2003  
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM EDT  
Women's Business Connection, a business issues conference call, brought to you by the National Women's Business Council  
October Topic: Access to Capital  
How to Join: Participants may join the call by dialing 1-877-326-2337 and entering code #3687613.

November 2003  
11/01/03 Wednesday, 2003  
Cowboys Against Cancer Benefit  
Sweetwater Events Complex  
[www.cowboysagainstcancer.com](http://www.cowboysagainstcancer.com)

11/08/03 Wednesday, 2003  
Wyoming Symphony Orchestra  
Natrona County High School  
[www.casperwyoming.info](http://www.casperwyoming.info)

December 2003  
12/05/03 Friday, 2003  
Cowboy Christmas Ball  
[www.sweetwaterevents.com](http://www.sweetwaterevents.com)

March is Women's History Month!

March 2004  
Wyoming Women's Fair at Western Wyoming Community College  
[www.wvcc.cc.wy.us](http://www.wvcc.cc.wy.us)

Western U.S. Has Top 5 States for Growth in Women-Owned Businesses

According to a new study by the Center for Women's Business Research, the nation's "hot spots" for women's entrepreneurship are in the western United States.

Wyoming and Idaho tied for first place followed by Utah, Nevada and Arizona as the top five states in the nation for growth and expansion in women-owned businesses according to the report Location, Location, Location, underwritten by Wells Fargo & Company. Between 1997 and 2002, on average, the number of women-owned businesses in these five states grew at more than twice the rate of the rest of the country, at an average rate of 28.8%, compared to 14.0% for all other states.

The top five states all shared the characteristics of very strong overall business growth and market expansion, a greater than average degree of federal financial support for small business, higher than average population growth, lower than average wages, lower than average employment of women in professional and managerial positions, and an overall state tax structure that relies more on sales taxes than corporate and personal income taxes as a source of revenue.

"Women business owners in these states are taking full advantage of the special opportunities presented by a vibrant, growing economy, a relatively low-cost workforce and government programs providing access to capital, training and technical support," said Myra M. Hart, Chair, Center for Women's Business Research and Professor, Harvard Business School. "Not only are they growing at twice the rate of all women-owned business in the United States - their businesses are expanding in employment and revenues by more than two and a half times the rate of all U.S. women-owned enterprises."

In these high growth states, employment by women-owned businesses expanded at an average rate of 76.3% compared to an average rate of 29.9% for women-owned firms in the rest of the country, and the sales of these firms grew by an astounding 116.9% on average, compared to 40.9% on average for women-owned businesses in the rest of the country between 1997 and 2002. Further, a higher proportion of the women in these states are business owners compared to the rest of the states.

All five states have experienced higher-than-average levels of federally guaranteed loans. The dollar value of small business loans guaranteed by the Small Business Administration (SBA) relative to state population is higher than in the remaining states (\$70 per capita compared to \$47 per capita). It appears that women business owners may be turning to federally supported sources for capital that may not be as readily available from commercial sources.

"Access to capital is critical for small business growth," said Joy Ott, National Spokesperson for Wells Fargo's Women's Business Services program. "As the nation's leading small business lender, we are committed to opening up the availability of credit and helping women business owners become successful financially."

Women business owners in the five states also benefit from a much lower ratio of women to SBA-funded Women's Business Development Centers (658,000 women per center compared to 1,668,000 per center). The result may be that women in these states have greater access to the technical assistance, coaching and training provided by the Women's Business Development Centers.

Women-owned businesses in the top five states also differ from women-owned firms in the rest of the United States in their industry profile. Compared to other states, women-owned businesses in these five states are less likely to be in services and agriculture and more likely to be in finance, real estate, insurance, or wholesale trade. Women in these states are also less likely than in other states to hold an elected position or be active in political issues.

Other key areas where these five states differ from others include their overall tax structure and industry distributions. These states tended to rely much more on sales taxes as a source of revenue, and less on personal income and corporate taxes than do other states.

The report, Location, Location, Location is available for \$130. For further information, contact:

Center for Women's Business Research  
Email: [info@womensbusinessresearch.org](mailto:info@womensbusinessresearch.org)  
[www.womensbusinessresearch.org](http://www.womensbusinessresearch.org)