

## Women's History Month 2015

Telling 31 stories in 31 days this March.



### Lt. Governor Sue Ellspermann

Sue Ellspermann was inaugurated as Indiana's 50<sup>th</sup>lieutenant governor on January 14, 2013, becoming the third woman to hold the office of Lt. Governor.

Under Indiana law, the Lt. Governor serves as President of the Indiana Senate and Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development. She also manages six state agencies including the State Department of Agriculture, Office of Community and Rural Affairs, Office of Tourism Development, Office of Defense Development, Office of Small Business and Entrepreneurship and the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority. Additionally, the Lt. Governor chairs the Indiana Counter Terrorism and Security Council.

Born and raised in the town of Ferdinand in Dubois County, Lt. Governor Ellspermann has a bachelor's degree in industrial engineering from Purdue University. After an early career in manufacturing at General Motors, Michelin and Frito-Lay, she returned to Evansville and started a consulting business. She also completed a master's and doctoral degrees in industrial engineering at the University of Louisville. Later she became the founding director of the Center for Applied Research and Economic Development at the University of Southern Indiana.

Sue was elected to the Indiana House of Representatives in 2010 and served as vice chair of the Employment, Labor and Pension Committee and was a member of the Small Business, Commerce and Economic Development and Elections and Apportionment Committees.

During her first year in office, Lt. Governor Ellspermann visited all 92 counties on a Listen and Learn Tour. In 2013, Governor Pence appointed her to co-chair his Blue Ribbon Panel on Transportation Infrastructure to identify the next generation of Indiana's major transportation projects. Additionally, she is serving as Vice Chair of the Indiana Career Council that is leading the State's workforce development, education and training initiatives.

In June 2014, Ellspermann led an agricultural trade mission to Japan, South Korea and Taiwan where she signed agreements promoting additional imports of Indiana corn, soybeans and hardwoods. To support rural economic development, she also convened a Rural Broadband Working Group to pursue increasing internet connectivity and bandwidth to rural Indiana.

#### March 30, 2015

Women quietly do extraordinary things every day. To help shed light on the resilience and strength of Hoosier women and celebrate their accomplishments and contributions to history we are releasing an article every day in the month of March. These articles showcase how women have moved Indiana and our country forward and who inspire others to do great things in their own lives.

Women in Indiana have an important role to play. You can make a difference by:

- Learning more about the issues affecting women in Indiana.
- Voicing your opinion on issues important to you
- Serving as an advocate for women
- Mentoring another woman
- Join ICW's mailing list or social media outlets to be notified of upcoming events, programs and resources available to women

Go to <a href="www.in.gov/icw">www.in.gov/icw</a> to learn more about the Indiana Commission for Women and their current initiatives.

#### Learn more:

- Office of Lt. Governor Sue Ellspermann (http://www.in.gov/lg)
- "Lt. Governor Sue Ellspermann," (February/March 2013) Evansville Business (<a href="http://www.evansvilleliving.com/business/articles/lt-governor-sue-ellspermann">http://www.evansvilleliving.com/business/articles/lt-governor-sue-ellspermann</a>)

# COMMISSION for women

100 N Senate Avenue, Room N103 Indianapolis, IN 46204

(317) 232-6720-direct (317) 232-7485-fax

info@icw.in.gov www.in.gov/icw