



# WLG Minute

from the IGA's Women Leaders in Gaming Initiative

Send us your news! Promotions, accolades and accomplishments: [morgan.molden@gmail.com](mailto:morgan.molden@gmail.com).

You have been designated by your employer to receive these pertinent updates as part of the IGA's Women Leaders in Gaming Initiative. We hope you enjoy this insight and engage in further dialogue with colleagues to enhance your career in this industry!

## VOICES AROUND IOWA

Two valuable resources for women in business are The Business Record's Lift IOWA publication ([sign up here](#)) and the [IWLC's blog](#). We strongly encourage you to sign up to receive these outstanding email publications. Here's some news from around Iowa:

- Opinion: Proper Etiquette — the Competitive Edge You Need, by Blair Rosenberg | Donor Relations Manager, HCI Care Services & Visiting Nurses Services of Iowa ... [Lift IOWA](#)
- Opinion: Embracing the Success of Women, by Ellen Willadsen | Chief Financial Officer, Holmes Murphy & Associates ... [Lift IOWA](#)
- Opinion: Do You Desire to Make a Bigger Impact? by Brianne Fitzgerald | Communication and Engagement Officer, Volunteer Iowa ... [Lift IOWA](#)

## IN THE NEWS

- GM's Dress Code is Only Two Words ... [QZ](#)
- Why There is More Power in Seeing the Potential in Others Than You Might Think ... [Thrive Global](#)
- Stay-at-Home Moms Are Half as Likely to Get a Job Interview as Moms Who Got Laid Off ... [HBR](#)
- Now That I'm 50, Here's What I've Learned About Achieving Success That Escaped Me at 25 ... [Inc.](#)
- Americans No Longer Prefer a Male Boss to a Female Boss ... [Gallup News](#)
- Be a High Achiever Instead of a Workaholic ... [Ellevate Network](#)

## 5TH ANNUAL WLG SUMMIT Congratulations Nancy Ballenger, this year's Founders Award Winner!

"Some people make things happen, some people watch things happen, and some wonder what happened," said Wes Ehrecke, CEO of the IGA, of this year's Founders Award winner Nancy Ballenger. Nancy is Vice President and General Manager of Isle of Capri Casino, Bettendorf, and has been making things happen for Iowa's Gaming industry for nearly 30 years. Despite having a leadership role with the Women Leaders in Gaming initiative, the nomination committee was able to keep Nancy's award status a secret. Read more about the WLG Summit and Nancy's career on the following page.



Nancy Ballenger was awarded this year's Founders Award. Read more about her achievement and the Summit on the next page.

The Iowa Gaming Association hosted the fifth annual Women Leaders in Gaming Summit on Tuesday, April 17 at Prairie Meadows Conference Center in Altoona.

The event once again gave women in Iowa's gaming industry an opportunity to come together for networking and inspiration.

Our keynote speaker, Tara Powers, Founder and CEO of Powers Resource Center, made her second appearance at the Summit and delivered another empowering message about Intent vs. Impact. The takeaway was that respected leaders need to be able to connect with their team on an emotional level, and in order to do so, we need to know ourselves and the impact our approach can have on others.

### **Founders Award Winner: Nancy Ballenger**

Nancy is Vice President and General Manager of Isle of Capri, Bettendorf and also serves as Vice Chair of the Iowa Gaming Association. She helped launch one of the first riverboat casinos in the country in 1991 and worked her way up through the ranks from marketing and hospitality to learn all facets of the casino operations. Nancy has continued to make things happen as she witnessed the industry evolve from that first riverboat cruise to add new amenities with the largest casino hotel in the state, now managing the city's convention center, moving to a land-based casino operation, and adding fine dining options and more.

The Founders Award inscription says it best: "Women Leaders in Gaming Founders Award presented to Nancy Ballenger in recognition of your tireless dedication to the growth of Iowa's casino industry".

Congratulations, Nancy!



Nancy Ballenger, winner of the 2018 Founders Award.



Sharon Haselhoff, Chair IGA Board, and her team from the Grand Falls Casino and Resort



Tara Powers, this year's keynote speaker.

