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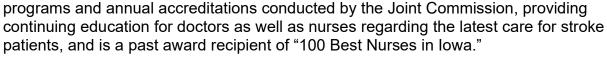
Trails Advocate Receives Governor's Volunteer Award

Longtime Linn County Trails Association (LCTA) board member Diane Handler has been selected to receive a Governor's Volunteer Award for "outstanding commitment and service." Governor Kim Reynolds will present the award in a noon June 6 ceremony at the Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School, 1002 G Ave., Vinton.

Handler has volunteered with the non-profit LCTA since the early 1990s and has served on the group's board for 20 years. She is the perfect volunteer, according to Board President Tom Peffer. "She is willing to accept leadership positions in the organization,

her suggestions are always appropriate and helpful, and, most importantly, she timely does what she says she is going to do." Currently a member of the LCTA's Executive Committee, which helps to review, refine, establish, and implement the organization's Vision and Mission, Handler also has for several years chaired LCTA's Communications Committee.

Additionally, she has served on the board and as a volunteer for Summit Schools as well as a volunteer on the Linn County Conservation Board, including one term as Board Chair. With a Masters in both Education and Nursing, Handler before retirement served as Stroke Coordinator for both local hospitals' stroke care



Launched in 1982, the Governor's Volunteer Awards program provides a non-competitive, low-cost way to honor local volunteers with state-level recognition. State agencies, nonprofits, charitable organizations, and non-state government entities (city, county, and federal offices operating in lowa) may recommend an individual volunteer or group of volunteers. Awards are presented in regional recognition events held each summer.

LCTA has for years served as a catalyst for a system of connected, multi-use trails through Linn County and Eastern Iowa.