

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

WOMEN'S ART, WOMEN'S VISION

HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 31, 2008

Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, in honor of Women's History Month, I asked New Mexicans to send me nominations of women in New Mexico who have given special service to our community, but may have never received recognition for their good deeds.

On Tuesday, March 25, 2008, I had the honor and privilege of recognizing sixty-one worthy nominations describing sacrifices and contributions these women have made for our community. The people who nominated the women describe the dedication they have witnessed: volunteer hours for veteran's services, service on non-profit boards, homeless programs, mentors for young women, health care providers going above the call of duty, child advocates, volunteers at churches and synagogues, successful business women, wives, mothers and friends.

Allow me to share information about this year's nominees:

Cindy Aguilar—As an integral member of the Lovelace Rehabilitation Hospital, Cindy demonstrates excellence in all she does. She is willing to take on extra responsibilities and is known for going the extra mile.

Bobbye Allen—Bobbye, a member of Epsilon Sigma Alpha International, has always served to make a difference in the lives of people she's never met. She does this through philanthropic work for Boys and Girls Ranch, CYF, Easter Seals, UNM Children's Hospital and also as a member of 3 different Chamber of Commerce.

Linda Barbour—Linda has worked tirelessly as a founding member and President of the East Mountain Area Coalition. She was also a key mover in initiating a permanent memorial for Deputy James McGrane. Her ability to work so efficiently with many different people makes her a great advocate and representative for the East Mountain community.

Debra Benavidez—Debra is a role model for customer service at the Lovelace Rehabilitation Hospital. Under her leadership, her department's employee and patient satisfaction has improved significantly along with an increase in volume and revenue. She is also admired for her balance of career and family life.

Peg Bilson—Peg joined Eclipse Aviation in July of 2005, bringing experience in operations, finance, engineering, technology, customer service and product support. Her leadership at Eclipse is the final element that will establish Eclipse's position in history as the Very Light Jet innovator and leader. Peg contributions are felt throughout the company, especially in the area of high-volume production and stabilization of the supply chain. As a key leader in a successful New Mexico business with over 1,600 employees, Peg has a vision for the future.

Barbara Brennen—Barbara is the owner of Stride, Inc., a manufacturing company of office supplies, which employs people with disabilities. Barbara knows that working, mastering a task or gaining a skill, is the best builder of self-esteem in the world. Over 200 people have out-grown her factory and are now employed in the community.

Sonia Britton—Sonia has turned a personal tragedy, the loss of her only son Butch in a DWI crash, into the DWI Memorial of Perpetual Tears in Moriarty. A true advocate for change, Sonia volunteers with organizations, such as Mother's Against Drunk Driving, to make a difference. She helps our community understand the personal cost of DWI.

Marlene Brown—Marlene is President of the New Mexico Solar Energy Association and serving within the organization for over 10 years. After losing her brother in 2001 to Leukemia, she raised over \$10,000 for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Her volunteer work with many organizations makes a positive impact on many people.

Patricia Brown—As a child, her son, John, remembers his mother's life as an unending stream of school activities, cupcakes, PTA meetings, child advocacy boards, soup kitchens, food banks, and hospitals. At 82 years old, Patricia has spent countless hours to make the world a safe, decent and loving place.

Dede Brownstein—Dede is a dedicated volunteer with Pet Therapy, teaching the understanding of the human link to the humane treatment of animals. As a volunteer for pet therapy programs she takes her dogs to hospitals, nursing homes, libraries and the Youth Detention Center. She has made an impact on over 5,000 youth within the Detention Center alone. Dede also set up the READ to the Dogs program to help kids with reading problems.

Margaret Carroll—Margaret has served on the DWI advisory board for four years, with the last two as president. She works tirelessly to secure funding for inpatient rehabilitation programs, while bringing awareness to our community about the dangers of alcoholism. Margaret also serves on the East Mountain Coalition of Neighborhood and Landowner Association.

Jessica Cotton—At Lovelace Rehabilitation Hospital, Jessica works hard to meet the needs of those she serves. She is truly an asset with the ability to communicate and connect with customers in English or Spanish.

Becky Cousins—Becky is a woman of vision in Lea County. Through the arts and the community theatre program, Becky has worked hard as business owner, actress and director to preserve the history of Lea County, while looking to the future in order to enrich the lives of the people in her community.

Leslie Cumiford—Leslie is the President of the Center for Family Justice, which was founded in 2003. Leslie has dedicated much of her time and resources for children, single parents and blended family homes.

Bertha (Bertie) Denman—During the National Hispanic Heritage Month in 2007, Bertie

was involved in an art contest for local students. Throughout this time she visited the schools, putting in the extra effort to let each child know how special they are, inspiring many of the children to participate.

Mignon Donnellon—Mignon is the mother of four adopted children. She volunteers with several organizations to raise funds for scholarships of deserving children for higher education.

Dr. Leslie Donovan—Dr. Donovan is described as a superior educator, mentor and friend at the University of New Mexico. While sharing a wealth of knowledge through her classes, she goes the extra mile to support the well-being of her students.

Doris Duran—Mrs. Duran is the office manager at The Valencia County Domestic Violence Shelter, and teaches a parenting class twice a week. Whether it is at work or in her spare time she is always willing to step in and help.

Pamela Finley—Pamela moved to New Mexico 2 years ago and wasted no time getting involved with several organizations in Valencia County, including Valencia Youth Literacy Council and the Mid Valley Air Park. Today, she also provides coaching for young women in the Miss New Mexico Scholarship program.

Joe Ann Gantz—Born in 1932, she was the only one of 12 children to earn a degree from NMSU, a rarity in those days. In the 1960s, Joe Ann started a kindergarten, one of only two in Las Cruces. A believer in education, she later earned a Masters in speech therapy and worked with handicapped children in the Las Cruces Public Schools.

Evelyn Gutierrez—Evelyn has been the volunteer Program Director for "Thomas Baca's Food Pantry" for over 15 years. She travels 64 miles round trip from Chilli to Albuquerque several times a month as part of her commitment to the program. She has inspired others to volunteer. Despite having been declared "dead once," she continues to live her passion to help others.

Mary Halberg—Mary is the youth director at a church and school, supporting youth and their parents with her optimistic attitude. She does something special for people every day. The kindergartner class wanted to do something special for Mary, they nominated her because she takes the time to read them stories and share her passion for learning.

Debra Hennig—A successful business woman in the Title Industry, Debra is sharing her success by establishing internships for young women through UNM's Black Student Union. Additionally, she teaches continuing education for the NM State Bar and involves herself in her church and several community organizations.

Helen Janacek (recognized posthumously)—Helen was an enthusiastic Line Dance instructor at Albuquerque Senior Centers for nearly 14 years. Each quarter, new

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

classes would start with repeat students and new comers. She prepared those who were interested in competition as well as those who just had great fun. Her contribution to the senior program will be greatly missed.

Anis Johnson—Anis has dedicated her life to doing for others. We can only highlight her service with over twenty organizations and charities. Anis is a Founder and Coordinator of Highland High School Volunteer Program's "Community Resource People at HHS" where she teaches by example, the ability to help and learn from those of different backgrounds. In this way she passes volunteerism from generation to generation. With the understanding that education opens doors, Anis served as the Program Coordinator for the Martin Luther King, Jr Multicultural Celebration awarding scholarships for college bound students. "One person can make a difference."

Dr. Feroza Jussawalla—Dr. Jussawalla's vigor and compassion for Literary works and teaching naturally draws her students into the topic at hand. She provides her students at UNM with an exceptional educational experience.

Ingrid Kloet-Garrett—Ingrid has been known to go "way beyond the call of duty," when it comes to the medical, emotional and spiritual needs of her clients at First Nations Community Health Source. Her ability to assess needs and find resources has enhanced the recovery and healing needed by all she serves.

Regina Lane—As a School Principal, Regina Lane teaches her students to persevere when life perplexes, to strive to be a better person and to rise above circumstances. There are no excuses in Regina's mind, yet she empathizes and connects with her students in a way that truly nurtures their spirits and their ability to succeed.

Kim Lark—Kim's dedication to the New Mexico Task Force One, an urban search and rescue team, combined with her duties as a physician, make her an invaluable asset to New Mexico. In addition, her willingness to volunteer her time, share her considerable expertise, and represent the team, makes others proud to be associated with her.

Megan Olivia Lloyd—Megan served on four church missions, building one church and 3 houses. She has been to Morocco with Operation Smile to assist with cleft palate surgeries. She has also helped raise money for additional surgeries. Megan maintains a high academic standard and is involved with athletics at Cibola High School.

Sydney Lockwood—Sydney is a volunteer for a local domestic violence shelter, where she has worked in fund raising to keep the services available. She is active in her Air Force Junior ROTC program, which includes community service for charitable organizations.

Patricia Madrid—"Ms. Pat," as she is known to the students of Acoma Elementary, is known for the care, love and tenderness she gives to each student. It is not unusual to be in a store and hear a young voice yell out "Ms. Pat" and see children rushing to her for a hug and smile. She is a person of strong moral fiber and strength of character, who is an unselfish wife, mother, caregiver and friend.

Dianna Martinez—Dianna's commitment to the nurses at Lovelace Rehabilitation Hospital earned her the reputation as the "go-to-gal." She coordinates the charity drive and has

worked with the United Way for several years. Dianna is described as someone who has made a profound difference in the lives of others.

Pat Mallory—Pat coordinates an intergenerational tutoring program run by the non-profit OASIS educational organization. Through her leadership, the program has grown to 100 senior citizen tutors providing reading assistance to over 120 first to fourth grade students. Her dedication and commitment to this program will only serve to help it to continue to grow.

Molly McCoy-Brack—Molly is a founding member of the New Mexico Suicide Prevention Coalition and the professional director of Agora Crisis Center. The center has flourished under her leadership, with 140 volunteers serving 700 callers per month in New Mexico.

Betty Ann Miller—Betty Ann has a passion for literacy in New Mexico. She is currently serving on the Board of the New Mexico Coalition for Literacy, while being an active Board member of the "Read/Write" program in Moriarity, and President of the Board of the non-profit organization, "Reading Works", which is dedicated to literacy improvement in the Albuquerque area.

Anastasia Mora—Anastasia is described as a team member who has made a significant contribution to Lovelace Rehabilitation Hospital. She has demonstrated excellent work ethics and customer service.

Deborah B. Morrell—Demonstrating an "open door" policy to her staff and students with countless hours of dedication to Eagle Ridge Middle School, Principal Morrell is one of the most successful administrative leaders in the Rio Rancho School District. Through her leadership, the school is a model for others in the area.

Judge Judith Nakamura—The Honorable Judge Judith Nakamura has a commitment to seeing that all citizens have access to the court and receive equal justice under the law. She has made a number of changes in the procedures of the court to provide service to the community include drug courts and homeless courts. Additionally she often speaks to youth about her role as a judge and community involvement.

Sylvia M. Olona—Sylvia is a dedicated Physician's Assistant who travels throughout New Mexico to provide health care to residents when no physician is available. She provides a much needed service in rural New Mexico.

Eva C. Panana—Eva started her career in 1966 as a Head Start Teacher for the Jemez Pueblo. She retired in 1994, although she remains active as a Foster Grandparent. Now known as "Grandma Eva" she brings joy, laughter and love with her always. Her long commitment to education is apparent with the majority of the tribal members in their 50's having been in her classroom.

Linda Pardo—Linda is a woman who loves the history of New Mexico, particularly the legend of Billy the Kid. She is seeking to share her enjoyment of this great land by writing a book about New Mexico.

Clara Pena—Clara is being recognized for her multiple contributions in the areas of crime reduction, health, education, services to seniors and youth within Albuquerque, particularly in the South Valley. Through her work and commitment to others, projects have grown.

Winnona Poole—Ms Poole started the after school program "Arts Academy" for La Mesa

Elementary School children. She provides the leadership and the enthusiasm for this creative program.

Barbara Rivers—A superb teacher of music at Sandia Prep for many years. Barbara also shares her talent by playing the violin in the New Mexico Symphony Orchestra. In addition she is a tri-athlete, serving as a role model to students and colleagues.

Marianne Robinson—An inspirational School Counselor at Sierra Vista Elementary school Marianne greets the student and staff with the daily message of "Make it a great day or not—the choice is yours." As a cancer survivor she is a role model for the message everyday.

Carol Romero—Carol has been a dedicated advocate for the rights of individuals with disabilities for the past 34 years. Her advocacy began with her oldest child, and spread to being a successful provider agency to those with disabilities. Carol recently lost her husband of 37 years and was embraced with support from the families she serves. She will continue to serve those with disabilities far into the future.

Dr. Eileen Ryan—As a Manager at Magdalena Ridge Observatory Dr. Ryan is guiding the 2.4-meter aperture telescope team toward wonderful achievements and discoveries. She shares her knowledge and experience with students to expand their visions of the Universe through the wonders of Astronomy.

Sandi Sadila—Sandi is team member with Angels Acts of Kindness, an organization serving individuals who may not be eligible for other assistance. The nomination put it simply: "She helped my family several times, and she really is an Angel."

Dr. V Vita Saavedra—As Program Director for the Cooperative Educational Administrative Intern Program, "Vita" touches the careers and more importantly the lives of future and current school administrators through her true interest in their success. She remains in contact with her students to encourage life long growth.

Shirley Sechrist—Shirley is a tireless volunteer and valued worker with many community organizations including: Top donor coordinator for United Blood Service, multiple roles with the Assistance League of Albuquerque and as President of the Presbyterian Hospital Auxiliary. Shirley has had a positive impact on many.

Charla Smith—An English teacher at St. Pius X High School, Charla shares her love of the English language and literature. She challenges her students at every turn with complex assignments in reading, writing, vocabulary and grammar thus inspiring them to dream big and achieve.

Linda Smith—As director of the Bethel Community Storehouse, Linda serves people throughout the Estancia Valley who are experiencing hardships and in need of help and support. She has touched the lives of many and inspired her coworkers, with her positive outlook and actions.

Wanda Sullenger—As a member of the Mountainair Volunteer Fire Department, Wanda dedicates her time and energy to aid the members of her community in difficult times. Her care for those who are sick or gravely ill is compared only to the level of care and comfort she offers to their families.

Melissa Salmon—Melissa divides her time between the education of three young boys,

working as the only secretary for the Mountain Elementary School, where she goes to work even during snow delays, and being a dedicated wife and mother. Melissa is "a credit to her community and to her family."

Sallie Van Curen—Sallie is the co-founder and executive director of Parents Reaching Out to Help, Inc. She has inspired others through her dedication, drive and commitment to all the families she serves.

Mary Ann Weems—With a life long dedication to the arts, the creation of the Weems Galleries and Framing and the nationally recognized Weems Artfest, Mary Ann is a role model for women in the arts. She has achieved excellence in visual arts while championing health care programs for children, and helping to set the standard for art galleries and businesswomen in NM.

Dr. Ann Wehr—As President of Molina Healthcare of New Mexico, Dr. Wehr has used her talents to ensure that over 71,000 low-income individuals and their families receive quality healthcare. She works with physicians to develop innovative programs to reach the under served.

Linda Walsh—Working for the Small Business Programs Office at Kirtland AFB, Linda is a champion for the minority business community. She has been instrumental in outreach from Kirtland to bring small business together with federal agencies.

Beverly White—Beverly's work for the people of New Mexico through the Office of the Medical Investigator lasted for more than 30 years. One of her greatest accomplishments was writing the initial grant for the NM Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Information and Counseling Project. It has served as a national model, and helped thousands of families.

Bobbie Williams—As a member of a number of community and business organizations, and an engineer at Sandia National Laboratories, Bobbie has served as a mentor, professional development advisor and friend to aspiring young people and colleagues. Bobbie is also one of only seven women inducted into the Girl Scouts Hall of Fame for Women in Technology.

Dr. Joyce Wilson—Dr. Wilson has worked in social work for over 35 years, founding the first External Employee Assistance Program which has saved hundreds of people from losing their jobs while also improving their lives. She volunteered with many community Boards and Committees to share her personal and professional skills.

Fay Yao—Ms Yao has been the librarian at Rio Grande High School for over 15 years, where she has shown constant support and dedication to the students and staff. She is a supporter of the Science department, providing updates and expansion of the science reference material. She has served as a mentor to a number of students while always improving the school's library to benefit all.

IN RECOGNITION OF AL STERN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 31, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Al Stern, a person who has dedicated his life to free speech and culti-

vating the seeds of Middle East peace and understanding in the Cleveland community. On March 27, 2008, Americans for Peace Now is honoring Al Stern for his lifelong commitment to peace in the Middle East and his dedication to "Tikkun Olam," the healing of the world.

After graduating from Indiana University with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Al Stern founded Stern and Company, a manufacturers' representative firm in 1962. During his 3 decades with the company, Mr. Stern became actively involved in the Middle East peace issues starting in 1974. He helped found the Cleveland chapter and serves as a national board member of Americans for Peace Now, the solidarity organization aligned with the Shalom Achshav movement in Israel. Shalom Achshav, founded in 1978 by Israeli citizens, was formed out of the conviction that Israel's democratic character and future security were intertwined with achieving a just and peaceful solution to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

For over twenty years, Mr. Stern has engaged and educated the Cleveland community about the costs of the current conflict and the opportunities for peaceful solutions. Through organizing and discussion, he has led people to challenge their assumptions about how to humanize the opposition. In his many visits to the region, most recently in 2005, he has gotten to know the people and the leaders in Israel, Egypt, Lebanon, Syria, the West Bank, and Gaza. He has led by example, through his own commitment to educating himself, reaching out to concerned members of the community and traveling to the region.

Since his retirement in 1993, Al Stern became a full time volunteer with the American Civil Liberties Union of Ohio as its Legislative Coordinator. Since coming to Congress, I have been privileged to hear frequently from Al Stern on the many free speech and civil liberties issues about which I have had to make decisions. He has also worked closely with me in helping to build bridges across the gaps which divide people both in the Middle East and in Greater Cleveland.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing Al Stern, who has been a leader in Cleveland, a peace-maker, and an inspiration for engaged, global citizenship.

HONORING ANDREW WESLEY SAWYER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 31, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Andrew Wesley Sawyer of Blue Springs, Missouri. Andrew is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1175, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Andrew has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Andrew has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Andrew Wesley Sawyer for

his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HIGHLIGHTING BASEBALL'S EFFORT TO REACH OUT TO MINORITY COMMUNITIES

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 31, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to highlight Major League Baseball's ongoing effort to reach out to minority communities and introduce a press release describing said effort. The league will host the first Urban Invitational Baseball Tournament, fielding two historically black colleges in recognition of its need to revitalize baseball in the African American community. Baseball should be committed not only to boasting diversity in its rosters, but to enjoy that same minority representation in its coaches, in its management, and in its viewership.

On the heels of the 60th anniversary of Jackie Robinson's historic breaking of the color barrier, the league has targeted urban youth and pledged its resources to bring them back to the sport. African Americans have played integral roles in the illustrious story of baseball, and it is a connection worth saving.

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL URBAN YOUTH ACADEMY TO HOST FIRST URBAN INVITATIONAL BASEBALL TOURNAMENT

Major League Baseball today announced that the Major League Baseball Urban Youth Academy will host its first Urban Invitational Baseball Tournament from February 29-March 2. Two Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Bethune-Cookman University (Daytona Beach, FL) and Southern University (Baton Rouge, LA), will face off against collegiate baseball powerhouses UCLA and USC. The participation of HBCUs in the Urban Invitational is part of MLB's ongoing diversity and youth initiatives.

"The Urban Invitational Baseball Tournament is a part of our continued focus on reviving the majesty of baseball in the African American community," said Major League Baseball Executive Vice President of Operations Jimmie Lee Solomon. "This tournament, along with the other programs at the MLB Urban Youth Academy, the Civil Rights Game and many of our other efforts, is reflective of the League's commitment to diversity, inclusion and engagement of our nation's young people. Our goal is to make sure that every child who wants to play baseball has an opportunity to do so."

Tournament games will be played at the MLB Urban Youth Academy, USC's Dedeaux Field and UCLA's Jackie Robinson Stadium beginning Friday, February 29 and continuing through Sunday, March 2. Both games on Saturday, March 1, 2008, will be played at the MLB Urban Youth Academy and broadcast live on ESPN2. Fans attending on that day will also be entertained by a live performance of Southern University's, "Human Jukebox" and USC's Trojan Marching Band, as they bring their unique musical performances to Compton, California. Bethune-Cookman University and Southern University baseball teams will square off against each other at 1 p.m. (PST) on Sunday at the Academy.

"ESPN is proud to be associated with Major League Baseball's urban initiatives," said Len DeLuca, ESPN Senior Vice President, Programming and Acquisitions. "The