

United Auto Workers will bestow the award on Berteen Ewles, Jimmie Wells and Ron Lane.

The UAW presents the Walter Reuther Distinguished Service Award to those individuals that exemplify commitment to their union and their community. Walter Reuther believed in helping working people, human dignity and social justice and recipients of the Distinguished Service Award carry on Walter Reuther's ideals.

Berteen Ewles is the President of Local 1811. She is responsible for over 700 members scattered at 13 companies. She has been involved in the Technical, Office and Professional sector of the UAW since 1986. She is also active with the Greater Flint Area CAP Council, the Michigan Democratic Party, state-wide organizing, and contract negotiations. In 2007 she received a YWCA Woman of Achievement award on behalf of the UAW Region 1-C.

Jimmie Wells has been a member of the UAW since 1986. She has served as the Vice President of Local 1811, as President of TOP, she has served on the Executive Board, the Women's Committee, as an Alternative UAW Convention Delegate, on the Constitutional By-laws Committee and the Education Committee. In addition, Jimmie has extensive civic involvement in community-based organizations.

Ron Lane conceived the idea of union representation at FJ Grafik, Inc. in 1986. This vision led to the employees achieving their first UAW contract two years later. Ron has served the UAW as the Region 1-C IPS Council Vice President, the Council District Chair, the Local 1811 Sergeant at Arms, and the Bargaining Chair. He has served on several committees at both the Local and Region 1-C levels. He is the liaison for all union represented accounts and local officials accounts for FJ Grafik.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Berteen, Jimmie and Ron as they receive the Walter Reuther Distinguished Service Award. May they continue their work on behalf of workers for many, many years to come.

CONGRATULATING CLARK COLLEGE ON ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BRIAN BAIRD

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2008

Mr. BAIRD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Clark College, located in America's Vancouver, on its 75th anniversary.

Clark College can trace its beginnings to the Nation's Depression. The school's founders had a simple, but challenging concept: provide opportunity to students who might otherwise give up on college because they couldn't afford to live away from home.

Even though the founders were driven by a sense of urgency, they took the time to make sure that they provided students with a quality education. They offered smaller classes with more personalized instruction. The goal was to deliver courses for lower-division students that would give them the background and tools they needed to go on to larger institutions for specialized, upper-division work. And as many transfer students would discover time and

again, Clark graduates often were regarded as having superior training to those who had completed freshman and sophomore levels at the very 4-year universities accepting those transferred credits.

In its 75th year, Clark College continues to meet the ever-evolving education needs of people in our community. Graduates continue to share stories of how Clark College was a starting point for professional and personal achievement.

During the 2007-2008 academic year, 1,129 Clark College students earned more than 1,252 associate degrees and certificates from Clark College. In addition, 25 students received their high school diplomas and 853 men and women earned their general educational development certificates. Clark also welcomed more than 1,000 "Running Start" students from 29 local high schools.

Besides diplomas and certificates, Clark College students receive career and technical training that provides access to immediate employment. Through these programs, displaced workers receive retraining. Mature students and other lifetime learners have access to a variety of courses to enrich their lives.

Clark College forges community links by consulting with businesses to ensure that students are meeting the needs of employers. Clark College assists businesses with training and has formed partnerships with companies to offer specialized workforce skills.

Clark College is also a community resource for political forums and arts-related events such as concerts, plays, lectures, exhibits, films and its perennially popular jazz festival. Together with YWCA Clark County, Clark hosts the annual Women of Achievement awards, an occasion of regional significance.

Not content with merely following trends, Clark's faculty and staff members have taken the lead in devoting their time and talents to many pioneering efforts. In 2006, Clark became the first college in the state to become tobacco-free. Clark was one of the first Washington community colleges to harness the Internet for student education, and continue to expand technical programs such as eLearning, which provides classes via the Internet and multimedia formats.

On behalf of the citizens of Washington's Third Congressional District, I am proud to congratulate Clark College on its 75th anniversary. Members of the Clark College community can rightfully take pride in their history, their legacy, and—more importantly—their future in building a foundation for student success.

HONORING MARY OLSON ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2008

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, it is a great privilege for me to rise today to recognize the contributions of Ms. Mary Olson, a resident of Mahtomedi, Minnesota who has served as a dedicated Department of Defense civilian employee since 1980. On this, the occasion of her retirement, it is fitting to reflect on her remarkable career as a public servant.

For 28 years, Ms. Olson has tirelessly supported the United States and the Department of Defense as a Policy Program Manager and Human Resources Specialist focusing in the areas of pay, leave and quality of work life issues. Her insights and policy initiatives have contributed greatly to the Department's ability to acquire and sustain the talent required to successfully accomplish its mission. It is a pleasure to commend her for her service and to extend to her the gratitude of a grateful nation.

Ms. Olson has served both in the continental United States and overseas. When leadership and managers needed an answer on which they could rely, they called on Ms. Olson. Her expertise is in and of itself worthy of recognition. However, she has also mentored untold numbers of human resources personnel in a manner that instilled unparalleled professionalism, a strong work ethic, and a model for persistence in resolving issues adeptly and accurately. She leaves a legacy of comprehensive compensation policies, as well as a cadre of expertly prepared human resources practitioners who will ensure the Department has and will continue to have the policies it needs for talent management.

Mary has been an inspiration and example for younger Federal employees and to her family. She battled back from a debilitating accident that would have caused most to give up. In Mary's case, however, her courage, fortitude and generosity of spirit spurred her on to be a major contributor to the Department's Civilian Personnel Policies, and a leader for all with whom she came in contact. Her zest for life was and is contagious!

After many years away, Mary has returned to Minnesota where she will no doubt continue to inspire others. With Mary's retirement from Federal service, Minnesota has reclaimed a fine daughter who will be a great contributor to her community. Mary may be retiring, but, we can be assured that she will continue working in some form, and will through her words and deeds be an exemplary citizen.

On behalf of myself and the many Federal employees, managers and leaders who have been helped directly by her work, I offer sincere gratitude to Ms. Mary Olson and wish her and her family all the best in her retirement years.

TRIBUTE TO THE "NO LIMITS" AWARD WINNERS

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2008

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the winners of the "No Limits" awards from the HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital of Altoona. HealthSouth has presented these rehabilitation awards to members of their community who have remained steadfast in overcoming an illness or disability. This year I congratulate: Trudy White, winner of the "No Limits" Advocate Award and Dustin Dillon and Franklin Foster, winners of the "No Limits" Personal Achievement Awards.

In March 2007, Trudy White was admitted to the Altoona Hospital for shortness of breath with both respiratory and congestive heart failure and was placed on a ventilator for several