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MICHAEL TINNESAND



JERRALYNN NESS



RAY AND CAROL HAAG



BOB TERRY



TED ZEHR

Residents to be honored for achievements

By BILL CHIDESTER
Of the Argus

The Greater Hillsboro Area Chamber of Commerce will present its 1993 Distinguished Achievement Awards on Tuesday during the chamber's monthly luncheon forum at Tuality Health Education Center.

Five awards will be presented. They are Professional of the Year, Retailer of the Year, Agriculturist of the Year, Scholar of the Year and Sportsman of the Year.

The Professional of the Year Award will go to Jerralynn Ness, executive director of the Washington County Community Action Organization (WCCAO).

As chief administrator of WCCAO the past 10 years, she has developed and managed programs to empower low-income people to help themselves. The non-profit organization employs 120 people and operates with an annual budget of over \$4 million.

More than 25 assistance and educational programs fall under the aegis of WCCAO. They range from Head Start to Tualatin Valley Food Bank, Family Shelter Home to Wood Co-op.

The services provide hope and assistance to an estimated 38,000 economically disadvantaged residents.

As WCCAO executive director,

Ness has established a strategic planning process, reorganized the agency to focus on self-reliance, created training programs, personnel and safety programs.

She has received numerous honors from her peers, has served as an officer or director of county, state and regional community action associations.

WCCAO, with offices at 451 S. First Ave., Suite 600, Hillsboro, expects to move into a new \$2.4 million complex on West Baseline Street by December 1994.

Carol and Ray Haag, owners of Country Gardens floral and gift store at 4825 NW 253rd Ave., Hillsboro, are the chamber's Retailers

of the Year.

The Haags have built Country Gardens from a small shop, supported by a few delighted customers, to a large productive business that provides a full range of floral and decoration services.

The Haags began their business while Ray was a teacher and school administrator in Washington County.

Country Gardens offers floral decorations for weddings, funerals and other special events, home and holiday decorations, nursery items including bedding plants, garden flowers and tours of nearby historical sites.

The Haags' century-old home and

beautiful gardens is a showcase for friends and visitors.

The Agriculturist of the Year Award goes to Bob Terry, president of Oregon Garden Products, 3150 SE Minter Bridge Road, Hillsboro.

Few people know that Terry, a corporate management troubleshooter, was hired by investors four years ago to liquidate holdings of a failing Oregon Garden Products Co.

After analyzing the company's financial structure, Terry decided to stay and rebuild the nursery products firm. In just four years his leadership has put Oregon Garden Products near the top of Oregon's ornamental nursery industry.

In doing so, he saved 600 jobs in a

1,200-acre operation that grows 1,500 varieties of ornamental shrubs, trees and flowers and sells them throughout North America.

Not only is equipment, including a fleet of trucks, kept in top condition at Oregon Garden Products, but the nursery has installed its own water-recovery system and established other environmentally sensitive projects.

Oregon Garden Product is the largest employer of Hispanic workers in Washington County. Terry is chairman of A Child's Place/Un Lugar Para Ninos, a child-care center for low-income parents.

Terry has received numerous pro-
(Continued on page 16A)

Chamber awards to honor six

(Continued from page 1A)

Professional and community awards including a chamber award for promoting and financially supporting the Hillsboro's 1992 Rose Festival parade float.

Michael Tinneland, an award-winning biology and chemistry teacher at Glencoe High School, is the 1993 Scholar of the Year.

Last spring, Tinneland was chosen a 1993 Sci-Mat Fellow for Independent Study in the Humanities. He received a \$3,500 grant permitting him to study Hispanic contributions to science and technology and to research the project in Mexico during the summer.

In 1992 he was selected to serve on the American Chemistry Society's planning committee for an International Chemistry Olympiad. He also has earned invitations to attend several prestigious national and international conferences including those sponsored by the National Science Foundation and the Science and Math Institute for Teachers of Excellence.

He holds bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Oregon.

Tinneland's outstanding scholarship is augmented by his genuine interest in being an effective teacher. He has a talent for winning students over to a love for science and learning.

Besides his work, he finds ample time for his wife and children, their interests, and community affairs.

Ted Zehr, who coached the Hillsboro High School Spartans baseball team to the 1993 state championship, is the chamber's selection as Sports-person of the Year.

Zehr, 31, also an exceptional mathematics and science teacher, lifted the Spartans to pre-eminence after being hired as Hilli varsity baseball coach in 1991.

Zehr's 1993 Oregon 4-A High School Baseball Champions defeated Metro League arch-rival Beaverton, 7-4, to win the title. The Spartans finished with a 22-9 season record.

For the accomplishment, Zehr was chosen Oregon State High School Baseball Coach of the Year and selected to coach the Metro team in the state all-star series.

Zehr and the Spartans accomplished the feat by struggling through one of the most rain-drenched Oregon springs on record.

Besides his coaching, he upgraded the infield, dugouts and backstop at Hare Field and supervised maintenance of the diamond.

Zehr played collegiately at Lower Columbia Junior College and at the University of Texas at El Paso and professionally in the Los Angeles Dodgers before entering coaching at Linfield College.

He coached baseball at Oregon City High School five years before moving to Hilli. His Oregon City team won the Oregon State 1990 Junior State (summer league) Championship.

WCCAO says fund drive going well

If everything goes as planned, the Washington Community Action Organization will be moving into its new building next year at this time.

Although the groundbreaking for WCCAO's new multi-service building has been delayed until May, the agency expects to ask for bids for the building in mid-March, said Pam Brown, development director for WCCAO.

WCCAO is expected to move into the building nine months after the groundbreaking.

"We are over halfway to our goal as far as the capital we need to do the project, so we feel really good about that," Brown said.

To date, \$1,276,700 has been raised for the building, which will house all of WCCAO's different departments under the same roof for the first time.

The property for the new building, 1001 SW Baseline, is currently vacant.