

Governor's Office of Community Service

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Lt. Governor and First Lady to Honor Civic Engagement Award Winners

HELENA - - - Lt. Governor John Bohlinger and First Lady Nancy Schweitzer will recognize seven Montana citizens who have greatly enhanced civic life in Montana through dedication and commitment to community service during the Governor's Conference on Civic Engagement awards banquet and ceremony on September 25 at the Holiday Inn Grand in Billings. The ceremony will begin at 7:30 p.m.

"Commitment to service is what makes Montana a great place to live," said Bohlinger. "The most important thing anyone can do is lend a helping hand. It may be as minimal as spending 15 minutes shoveling for an elderly neighbor or as much as 10 hours a week volunteering at a local school."

Bohlinger, a veteran of the Montana legislature, was first elected in 1992. He served three terms in the house and recently resigned his seat in the Senate to serve as Lt. Governor in January, 2005.

During his 33-year career as a small businessman, Bohlinger also worked for many community organizations in the Billings area. He was a member of the Board of Directors of the Billings Chamber of Commerce, First Interstate Bank West, Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch, and the Billings Studio Theater. Bohlinger served as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, the St. Patrick's Catholic Church Parish Council. He also served as president of the Board of Directors of the Yellowstone Art Museum and president of the Billings Symphony. He is currently a member of the Helena Rotary and Helena Cathedral and chairs the Council on Homelessness.

The Governor's Awards for Civic Engagement originated in 2000 with the belief that recognition of service and engagement will serve as a reward and encourage others to adopt a "can do" attitude.

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The Governor's Civic Engagement Award winners are selected based upon their commitment to cultivating an ethic of service in their communities.

The 2007 Governor's Civic Engagement Award winners are:

- Organization Family Promise of Gallatin Valley
- Youth Greg Smith, Anaconda
- National Service Member Abby Zent, Helena
- Adult Rob Bankston, Livingston
- Senior Alvaretta Chaussee Morin, Arlee
- Lifetime C. Louise Cross, Glendive
- Service Learning Students Enhancing Local Businesses (SELB), Anaconda

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For additional information about the conference please visit the Office of Community Service website at <http://www.mt.gov/mcsn/services/govConfCivic2007.asp>