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ASPA TIMES

Advancing excellence in public service. . .

ASPA's National Office and Several Chapters Honor Public Servants During Annual National Event

Washington, DC—As part of its annual celebration of Public Service Recognition Week (PSRW), ASPA National attended a panel discussion at *The Washington Post* hosted by The Council for Excellence in Government on Tuesday, May 6, 2008. The discussion focused on the release of the report, "The Appeal of Public Service: Who, What, and How?"

The report suggests that approximately one third of young Americans would consider entering the field of public service if asked by their parents, a teacher, or the next president of the United States.

Discussion panelists included: Stephen Barr, columnist for *The Washington Post*; Warren Wright, managing partner at The Gallup Organization; Linda Washington, deputy assistant secretary for administration for the U.S. Department of Transportation; and Adam Lusin, management analyst for the U.S. Department of State.

Other activities in honor of PSRW were held May 5-11, 2008, in cities and towns across the country. This once-a-year opportunity to recognize the everyday



Deputy Assistant Secretary for Administration at the U.S. Department of Transportation Linda Washington, *The Washington Post* Columnist Stephen Barr, and The Council for Excellence in Government President and CEO Patricia McGinnis discuss the future of public service during a panel discussion on the recently released report "The Appeal of Public Service: Who, What, and How?"

work of public servants includes a wide range of activities—festivals, parades, essay contests, community clean-up days, and charity fundraising events—that

improve public understanding of, and appreciation for, their contributions. Sponsored by the Public Employees Roundtable, of which ASPA is a member,

PSRW has received the support of the president, members of Congress and officials from all levels of state and local government.

On the National Mall in Washington, DC, more than 100 government agencies sponsored colorful exhibits that showcased the innovative and high-quality work of public employees. These activities—with many local variations—were duplicated in venues large and small across the country and in locations where U.S. employees are posted around the world.

Since the founding of the nation, local, state and federal employees have provided valuable support in almost every facet of American life. Today public servants construct highways, coordinate emergency assistance, manage federal and state support programs, print currency, teach our children, preserve our history, fight disease and poverty and work to keep our homes, businesses, and country safe.

For more information on PSRW visit <http://www.excelgov.org/index.php>.

ASPA Seeks Feedback on Electronic Voting

Washington, DC—Recently, the Finance Committee and the National Council of ASPA approved the Society's move to electronic voting. It has been demonstrated that electronic voting would increase member participation, as well as provide a cost savings for ASPA. In addition, provisions would be made for those who would prefer the traditional paper ballot.

Please take a moment to review the statement at the end of this article that is in support of the additional voting provisions per the by-laws. Following this article will be a space for you to indicate your support of this change to ASPA's bylaws. Once you have done so, please fax (202-638-4952) or mail your response to ASPA at 1301 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Ste. 840, Washington, DC, 20004.

ASPA members are being contacted via email and through this *PA TIMES* article to assess their support of this proposed change. If you have not received an email from the Society please use the form following this article to indicate your support. Online voting is also available at http://aspa.informz.net/aspa/archives/archive_310199.html.

If you did not receive an email regarding this vote, it means we either don't have an email address for you, or the one we have is incorrect and you may wish to contact

See ELECTRONIC VOTING, pg. 27



Washington, DC—Sponsored by the ASPA Endowment, 2008 marks the seventh annual Gloria Hobson Nordin Social Equity Award to a public administrator in recognition of distinguished contributions toward achieving fairness, justice and equity in government.

This year's recipient, Addie Mix, is co-founder and executive director of Reclaim A Youth (RAY) of Illinois, a volunteer social service organization committed to enhancing and shaping the lives of youth through education and counseling. In 1991, Mix, along with 25 concerned friends, sought to make a positive impact in the community after the death of her only son, James Mix.

Since its inception, the mission of RAY to reclaim youth and to minister to hopeless individuals is fulfilled through various programs, which include: the James Mix & Sean Cater Scholarship, Annual College Orientation Forum, 5th-8th Grade Early Intervention, Reclaim A Family (RAF) and the Grief and Loss Support Group.

RAY is a catalyst in Chicago's southern suburbs to provide families a positive outlook on life and offers hope and

Social Equity Award Winner Inspires with Speech

ASPA's Gloria Hobson Nordin Social Equity Award Winner Delivers Inspirational Speech During Ceremony at ASPA's 69th Annual Conference in Dallas, TX

possibilities for the community. As ordinary men and women doing extraordinary deeds, RAY volunteers are professionals from all walks of life and serve as great examples for the children to follow. The volunteers instill in each student that his or her dream can come true by aiming high and working hard.

Mix attributes RAY's accomplishments to God operating through those who dedicate their time, talent and treasure to improve the lives of others. As a visionary and leader Addie believes RAY has been a walk of faith for over sixteen years. Many accomplishments have been made by God's grace. RAY's programs are run on the backs of dedicated and committed volunteers who dare to make a difference.

Mix taught school for 35 years and was Senior Vice President of her own Primerica Financial Services company for 10 years. She retired from Primerica in 1991 and from teaching in 2000, yet remains actively involved in RAY's programs.

Following is her speech given during the award ceremony at ASPA's 69th Annual Conference in Dallas, TX.

Addie Mix

With deep appreciation for recognizing the work of hundreds of dedicated and committed community volunteers across this country and especially Reclaim a Youth of Illinois, I thank the American Society for Public Administration.

Reclaim a Youth, known as RAY, owes Mrs. Gloria Hobson-Nordin a debt of gratitude for her great contribution to society for taking a stand on Housing discrimination, and to those of you who keep her courageous and inspiring work before the public. Her work lets us know that each one of us can make a contribution toward social change. Maybe we can't all do great things, but, we can all do small things in great ways.

Let me share with you some of my background that perhaps brought me here today. I grew up in Mississippi, in a loving and caring home, where faith and education were stressed as vital tools to succeed in life. My parents instilled in my siblings and me strong moral values, self respect, integrity and hard work. We were taught that we were as good as

See SOCIAL EQUITY SPEECH, pg. 19