Soroptimist awards honor women who inspire

By Dawn Feldhaus
Post-Record staff

Adrianna Mahar hopes to attend dental school. Elizabeth Asahi Sato owns a local consulting firm. Mary Weishaar has volunteered for 20 years in Camas and teaches at Camas High School.

Mahar, Sato and Weishaar were among the 15 area women honored by members of Soroptimist International of Camas-Washougal during an awards banquet held March 18. Overall, more than $15,700 in grants, scholarships and awards were presented.

Additional honorees were Shelby Bloodworth, Keliah Holveck, Alisa Collins, Rona Harrison, Krista Smith, Molly Adamson, Kathleen Doyal, Denise Lazzara, Diana Middleton, Alisha Satterfield, Cassandra Williams and Agnes Cameron.

Mahar, a River HomeLink senior enrolled in the Clark College Running Start program, received $1,000. She aspires to attend the University of Washington before applying to dental school.

“I am excited to conquer the next eight years of school,” Mahar said. “And I have less of a financial stress with the gracious scholarship award. I am very honored that the Soroptimist International awards committee felt that it was worth the while to give me the financial gift they did.”

Sato, owner of Rise to Excellence, received $50 and a “Making a Difference for Women” award. In 1975, she was presented with a Soroptimist scholarship as a high school senior in Portland, Ore.

“I have the Soroptimist, the Japanese American Citizen’s League, the American Legion and a host of other service organizations to thank for encouraging me with my college education,” Sato said.

She appreciated the recent honor as well.

“It was a complete joy to be recognized by a group of women who serve our local community so compassionately and diligently,” Sato said.

Weishaar said she was honored and touched to receive a “Making a Difference for Women” award.

“The Camas community is a wonderful place to live,” she said. “I feel that if everyone gave one to two hours a week, our place would be that much richer in the helping and giving area.”

Funds for the awards were raised primarily during estate, household and moving sales organized by Soroptimist members.

Meanwhile, tickets, $10 each, are currently available for raffles, organized by the Soroptimists. The prizes will be two Sharp TVs.

Raffle proceeds will go toward community service projects and awards. Drawings will be held during the Soroptimists 60th anniversary celebration June 17. For more information, contact Marilyn at 833-1828 or Cathi at 835-0488.

Soroptimist International of Camas-Washougal recently honored 15 women. Honorees included (front row, left to right) Cassandra Williams, Kathleen Doyal, Alisa Collins and Agnes Cameron; (middle row, left to right) Shelby Bloodworth, Denise Lazzara, Elizabeth Asahi Sato and Mary Weishaar; and (back row, left to right) Diana Middleton, Adrianna Mahar, Alisa Satterfield, Rona Harrison and Keliah Holveck. Krista Smith and Molly Adamson are not pictured.