

Girl Scouts to honor 21 area women

By MIA MOODY-HALL

The Girl Scouts-Bluebonnet Council will honor 21 Central Texans May 8 at its 11th annual Women of Distinction Banquet in the Blume Conference Center at Baylor University's Cashion Building.

The group includes Waco residents Ramona Curtis, Joyce Packard, Nelwyn Reagan, Sue Sloan and Pam Smallwood.

"As role models, Women of Distinction illustrate to girls the increasingly wide range of options open to women today and the variety of ways in which young women may grow to fulfill dreams, serve others and improve the world around them," said Beth Vivio, director of the Bluebonnet Council.

The event recognizes the achievements of Central Texas women who have distinguished themselves as role models for girls.

"All of them have given back to the community," Vivio said. "But they have also made great strides in the careers, vocations, etc. They show girls that they can do anything and achieve any dream or goal they have for themselves."

Guest speaker will be Dallas author Julie Alexander, and entertainment will be provided by the Klaras Collaboration and the Waco Symphony Girls Choir and Chorale.

The banquet, which is planned by previous honorees, rotates each year among Bryan/College Station, Killeen, Temple and Waco. Proceeds will be used to support Girl Scout programs for at-risk and low-income girls in local communities, said Ann Owen, fund development and finance director.

"These programs give girls the



Curtis



Reagan

skills and encouragement to develop self-esteem, self-reliance, leadership abilities and teamwork skills," she said. "We are developing tomorrow's Women of Distinction."

Ramona Curtis

Curtis is director of human relations at Baylor University. She has served as board president of Quinn Campus Inc.; recording secretary of the Waco Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta sorority; diversity chair of the Heart of Texas Society for Human Resource Management; and North Texas state coordinator of the American Association for Affirmative Action. Curtis also is a worship leader and assistant youth director at Bracks United Methodist Church.



Packard



Sloan



Smallwood

Joyce Packard

Packard is a retired counselor who worked for 23 years at Richfield High School. She has served on the boards of the Waco Library Task Force, Brazos Higher Education Authority, Brazos Performing Arts, Waco I.S.D. Education Foundation, Historic Waco Foundation, Waco Women's Symphony Council, Baylor University Alumni Association and Waco Literary Club. Packard also is a Sunday school teacher at Columbus Avenue Baptist Church.

Nelwyn Reagan

Reagan is president of Keep Waco Beautiful and the Waco Y. She has served on the boards of East Terrace, Compassion Ministries, Waco-McLennan County Library Foundation and the Waco Foundation. She is an adult Sunday school teacher and Bible study discussion leader at First Baptist Church Woodway.

Sue Sloan

Sloan is a former special education teacher at Lorena High School. She has served on the boards of Central Texas Senior Ministry, Evangelia-Kids and Company, First University Credit Union and the Center for Learning and Development. Sloan also serves as a deacon at First Baptist Church.

Pam Smallwood

Smallwood is chief executive officer of Planned Parenthood of Central Texas. She has served on the boards of the Texas Women's Health and Family Planning Association and the Texas Association of Planned Parenthood Affiliates. Smallwood is active in Rotary Club and at Lake Shore Baptist Church.