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Living Her Legacy

by Loveland Writer,
Phyllis Kennemer

Women's accomplishments and contributions to society are significant and varied, but they seldom get the recognition they deserve. A group of women in Fort Collins is dedicated to correcting this oversight.

Patti Smith had the inspiration for the Living Her Legacy project in 2013 and presented a proposal to her chapter of Zonta, an international service organization dedicated to improving opportunities and status for women worldwide. The members embraced the concept, a committee was formed, and work began in January 2014. Patti reports that it has been a seven-year labor of love. LHL became a 501c3 IRS approved nonprofit in SEPT, 2020.

A sign was posted in a window at Cooper-Smith's Poolside Restaurant in historic Old Town Fort Collins announcing the anticipated exhibit of paintings representing notable women of the area. Nominations of names for inclusion in the list were solicited and 48 women were selected. Two female artists are creating paintings of the women for an outdoor exhibit on the restaurant walls. One of the artists is a single mother Patti met through Zonta Club's Single Mom Mentor Program.



Photo above: Legacy at community foundation with banner

her career in educating young people about health care in high school programs and as Owner of the Healthcare From the Heart business as a Health Education Consultant. She has had a lifelong interest in helping young women reach their highest potentials.

Patti and her husband, Steven, live in Fort Collins. They have three sons and four grandchildren living in Fort Collins, Durango, and Chicago.

"If your actions create a legacy that inspires others to dream more, learn more, do more, and become more, then, you are an excellent leader."

-Dolly Parton

Photographs and notations of the first 24 honorees can be viewed on the project's website: www.LivingHerLegacy.org. The featured women represent a wide variety of cultures, professions, and historical time periods. The list includes political activists, educational innovators, advocates for groups not adequately served, and a delegate to the first women's suffrage conference in Washington, D.C.

These women serve as role models for girls and women of all ages. Women are encouraged to aspire to goals that inspire them and to create their own legacies.

Patti Smith, a retired registered nurse, is committed to the goals of the project. She sees it as a natural progression for



For more information about this project contact...

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