

Earhardt award as “woman of the year” in the aviation industry for 2004, which has only been given to two other women since its inception.

Throughout her career, Ms. Sadler has demonstrated her profound commitment to all aspects of aviation business, as well as a dedicated commitment to excellence. With my many dealings regarding aviation issues as a Member of Congress, I have come to know Ms. Sadler’s abilities and realize that she is the consummate professional whose performance in over 39 years of service to one of our Nation’s leading businesses has personified those traits of competency and integrity that we have come to expect from business professional leaders.

I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Linda C. Sadler for her honorable service to business and our great State of Iowa. Please join me in wishing her all the best in the future.

HONORING JOE ANN COUSINO

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 15, 2008

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Joe Ann Cousino of Toledo, Ohio.

A newspaper once headlined, “Name any art media, and chances are good that Mrs. Cousino has had experience in it.” Joe Ann Cousino blessed Toledo with her artistic talents, beautifying the world she touched. Mrs. Cousino passed from this life Wednesday, December 19, 2007 due to ailing health. She was one of the most eminent artists in the Toledo area for more than 50 years and a renowned sculptor. Mrs. Cousino’s sculptures can be seen in public spaces, buildings, and private collections throughout northwest Ohio, in surrounding states, and as far away as Cairo and San Miguel de Allende, Mexico. Her figurative bronze pieces have won national acclaim and her work has appeared in more than 100 shows nationwide.

Born Joe Ann Bux, she was the only child of Mr. and Mrs. George Carl Bux. She graduated from Scott High School in Toledo, Ohio and later the University of Toledo, where she majored in art and minored in English literature. To finance her education, she taught classes in mural painting and glass etching at Toledo’s YMCA and YWCA. She was accepted to study at the prestigious Pratt Institute in New York, but chose to stay in Toledo with her fiancé, Wayne Kenneth Cousino.

Among her most visible sculpture projects are the 6-foot-tall “Woman with the Birds” at Toledo Botanical Garden, the 7-foot bronze Outreach of a “Woman and a Dove” at the University of Toledo Medical Center, the former Medical College of Ohio, and the 6-foot, 3-inch “St. Clare” at the Franciscan convent’s gardens in Tiffin. “She has been such a prominent figure in the Toledo art world, and a lot of that has to do with so many of her pieces being public art,” said Greg Jones, former director of the School of Art and Design at the Toledo Museum of Art.

Mrs. Cousino was a founding member and later a president of the Toledo Potters’ Guild. She focused on sculpture but her work in-

cluded interior decoration, fashion design, jewelry, ceramics, painting, and architecture. In the early 1950s she designed her family’s Otawa Hills home. Mrs. Cousino traveled the world to research art and cultures, going as far as a village in Egypt in search of tapestries made by Bedouin children.

In March 2007 Mrs. Cousino presented her last major sculptural work in Bowling Green, Ohio: a stoneware bust of local silent film star Lillian Gish. It was a capstone achievement to a distinguished professional career that began to take shape in the late 1940s. Through the years she became known for her industrious work ethic, indomitable spirit, and outspoken nature—traits which availed her rise to prominence during the 1950s in what was then a largely male-dominated sculpture field. “She was like a dynamo,” said Tracey Ladd, one of Mrs. Cousino’s art instructor colleagues. “There just weren’t a lot of female sculptors [in the 1950s], and she had to struggle a bit to make her artwork.”

The Toledo Blade interviewed Mrs. Cousino in 2000, providing a glimpse of her persona in which she explained her approach to instructing students. “I’m fussy. I’m a taskmaster, and for myself too,” she said. “People run all over artists. You learn. I learned the hard way. I sometimes get on the case of these young artists because they just get abused.”

She taught sculpture for most of her life, and until a few months ago gave private lessons from home while teaching adult continuing education classes at the Toledo Museum of Art. “She had the ability to teach them exactly what they need to sculpt a human figure, and to do that out of a lump of clay is very, very difficult,” Mr. Jones said.

The Toledo community deeply will miss the loss of this artistic treasure. Her talent and the generous nature of her public work remain irreplaceable. The Toledo community will remember her courage, skill, and spirit every time they pass by and view her momentous and beautiful creations.

TRIBUTE TO HEAD COACH HOWARD SCHNELLENBERGER AND THE FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY OWLS FOOTBALL TEAM

HON. ROBERT WEXLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 15, 2008

Mr. WEXLER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Head Coach Howard Schnellenberger, his coaching staff and the Florida Atlantic University Owls Football Team for their momentous win in the R+L Carriers New Orleans Bowl on December 21, 2007. Their 44 to 27 victory over the University of Memphis Tigers marked the first bowl victory in FAU’s history, setting an NCAA record as the youngest program in NCAA history to win a bowl game.

In only its seventh year, the Florida Atlantic University football program has ascended quickly under the leadership of Coach Schnellenberger. Known for his success at rebuilding programs at the University of Miami and the University of Louisville, Schnellenberger was hired as Director of Football Operations in 1998 to build a new program at FAU, and he immediately set the goal

of building a program that would eventually compete for a National Championship. The program’s string of successes to date shows the Owls are on their way to reaching that goal.

Beginning with an upset victory over Bethune Cookman College in only its second game in 2001, FAU’s short football history is full of accomplishments. In 2003, its third season in Division 1-AA, the Owls reached the national semifinals and finished the season ranked fourth in the nation. Following four seasons in Division I-AA, FAU jumped to Division I-A in 2004 and joined the Sun Belt Conference, where it was immediately competitive and took on a schedule of tough non-conference opponents from the Big Ten, Big 12 and SEC. This season, FAU defeated its first Big Ten opponent, the University of Minnesota, as well as defending Sun Belt Conference champion Troy University to win the 2007 Sun Belt Conference Championship and a berth in the R+L Carriers New Orleans Bowl.

The Owls jumped to an early lead in the R+L Carriers New Orleans Bowl, which was never relinquished behind Quarterback Rusty Smith, who won the Most Valuable Player Award after completing 25 of 32 passes for 336 yards and five touchdowns. FAU was also well-decorated at the Sun Belt Conference Awards, where Smith received the Player of the Year Award, Coach Schnellenberger received the Coach of the Year Award, and six players including Smith were named First-Team All-Conference.

This win is one that brings great pride not only to those affiliated with Florida Atlantic University, but to the entire South Florida community, and I am proud to recognize their historic achievement.

CONGRATULATING JERRY SEALY ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 15, 2008

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Jerry Sealy on his retirement as the Executive Director of Okaloosa Regional Airport in Okaloosa County, Florida.

Jerry has been a role model for not only his colleagues, but also to those in northwest Florida. He served the county for just short of 14 years and during that time he was an active member of the American Association of Airport Executives and served as the President of the Florida Airport Managers Association in 1999. Not only was he selected as the 1999 Aviation Professional of the Year by the Florida Department of Transportation, but he also received the highest accreditation available from the American Association of Airport Executives as an Accredited Airport Executive, A.A.E.

Through his leadership and vision, Okaloosa Regional Airport was awarded the 2005 Commercial Service Airport of the Year by the Florida Department of Transportation and the 2006 National Excellence in Construction Merit Award from Balfour Beatty Construction through the Associated Builders and Contractors for the construction of a new airport terminal.