

# WILL holds spring luncheon and awards banquet

WILL, Women in Leadership & Learning, held their First Annual Spring Banquet and WILL Achievement Awards on Wednesday, May 6th, at the Days Inn Convention Center.

The keynote speaker was Dee Dee Raap. She spoke on how her mother's plastic pink flamingos, that she had in the front yard, embarrassed her as a child, but now serve as a metaphor for her mother's values, and for the basis for a humorous, yet serious journey of helping others find their pink flamingos.

During the banquet, the WILL Achievement Awards were given out in three categories: Business, Leadership, and Community. Teresa McKnight, Executive Director of the SDSU Innovation Campus was the recipient of the Business Award.

Ginger Thomson, business development executive for Home Federal Bank received the Leadership Award.

There were two recipients for the Community Award which were Victoria Blatchford;

Community Banking President and Business Banking Manager for Wells Fargo Bank and Jo Woodard; Program Director for the Brookings County Youth Mentoring Program.

Women in Leadership & Learning will be taking the summer off and will begin their luncheons again on Wednesday, September 2nd, 2009.

Look for more information on their upcoming season in future editions of the Chamber Update.