

# FOR THE LADIES

TEEN ACHIEVER AWARD™ CREATED TO INSPIRE YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS

## AVON SBA SALUTE WOMEN BUSINESS OWNERS

New York—Five remarkable women business owners received the 1992 Women of Enterprise Awards recently for surmounting formidable obstacles to achieve success. Award-winning journalist and author Linda Ellerbee addressed 1,200 businesswomen who applauded the winners at a luncheon at The Waldorf Astoria.

In the spirit of providing mentors for a new generation, the first-ever Women of Enterprise Teen Achiever Award was presented to business owner Susan Behm, 18, of Westminster, Colo., who began a successful computerized-embroidery company at the age of 16.

The Women of Enterprise Awards—established in 1987 by Avon Products, Inc. in association with the U.S. Small Business Administration—is the first corporate-sponsored awards program to honor the achievements of women entrepreneurs.

"Women-owned businesses are one of the fastest growing sectors of the economy," said Lindsey L. Johnson, director, Office of Women's Business Ownership, U.S. Small Business Administration. "Women today own nearly one-third of all U.S. businesses—a 58 percent increase over a decade ago."

The award winners were nominated by the women's and



Award-winning writer, producer and news anchor Linda Ellerbee (right), among the most influential women in the television industry, shared her success story with an audience of 1,200 businesswomen recently at the sixth annual Women of Enterprise Awards luncheon in New York City. Mary-Frances Winters, president, The Winters Group, Rochester, N.Y., was among the five women entrepreneurs recognized for outstanding business achievement despite significant obstacles. The Women of Enterprise Awards program—established by Avon Products, Inc. in conjunction with the U.S. Small Business Administration—is one of the nation's top honors for women business owners.

business organizations, and selected from hundreds of qualified candidates nationwide by an Advisory Council of business leaders. Winners received a three-day, all-expense-paid trip to New York City, a Tiffany-designed trophy and \$1,000. Each sponsoring organization also received \$1,000.

In the year to come, the award winners will speak at local business conferences to encourage thousands of women interested in starting their own enterprises.

"It's wonderful to see the award winners energize so many

others," said Gail Blanke, Avon's senior vice-president of corporate affairs. "As mentors they inspire women not only to dream of success—but to go after it."

And to salute the next generation of entrepreneurs, A Teen's Guide To Business: The Secrets to a Successful Enterprise (MasterMedia, New York)—the first book to address the twin topics of business ownership and job strategies for teens—was distributed to all luncheon attendees. The fact filled guide offers practical information on how teens can start businesses and how to get—and keep—jobs.

The 1992 Women of Enterprise Awards winners, selected for outstanding business achievement despite challenges, are:

Margie Gershen Abrams, board chairperson, Associated Building Services Company, Houston, Tex., a sharecropper's

## Lighter Versions of Favorite Foods

Here's an easy and elegant dinner recipe that shows that lighter versions of favorite foods can still be wonderfully delicious—and nutritious! Curried Chicken with Apricots and Green Pepper is a good source of vitamins A and C as well as riboflavin, calcium and iron and it's an excellent source of protein and niacin.



### CURRIED CHICKEN WITH APRICOTS AND GREEN PEPPER

12 ounces (3 medium) boneless, skinless, chicken breast halves, sliced into 1/2-inch strips  
1 tablespoon margarine  
3/4 teaspoon curry powder  
1 cup thinly sliced green pepper strips  
1/3 cup finely chopped onion  
1 1/2 cups (12-ounce can) undiluted CARNATION® Lite Evaporated Skimmed Milk  
1 cup (8 1/4-ounce can) unpeeled apricot halves in juice (juice drained and reserved)  
1 tablespoon plus 2 teaspoons cornstarch  
2 cups hot cooked rice  
Toasted sliced almonds (optional)

Spray 10-inch non-stick skillet with no stick cooking spray. Sauté chicken strips for 6 to 8 minutes or until no longer pink. Remove from skillet and keep warm. In same skillet, melt margarine. Stir in curry powder, green pepper, and onion; sauté just until tender. Add evaporated skimmed milk. Place cornstarch in small bowl; gradually stir in small amount of reserved apricot juice to make a paste. Stir in remaining reserved juice. Add to skillet and bring to a boil over medium heat, stirring constantly, until mixture begins to thicken. Add chicken and apricot halves; stir gently. Heat through. Serve over rice. Garnish with almonds, if desired. (Makes 4 servings)

Nutritional information per serving (approx. 1 cup sauce + 1/2 cup rice).  
Calories-360; Protein-30g.; Carbohydrate-49g.; Fat-4g.; Cholesterol-53mg.; Sodium-205 mg.; Potassium-740 mg.

daughter who founded a \$22 million office-cleaning service.

Beverly Duran, chairman of the board, Carretas, Inc., Albuquerque, N.M., an Hispanic woman who attended Harvard on Scholarship and then started a company that supplies push-carts for shopping malls.

Lisa G. Renshaw, president, Penn Parking, Inc., Linthicum, Md., who, at age 21, became the first woman ever to found a

parking garage company.

Paula B. Wells, president, Wells Engineers, Inc., Omaha, Neb., a woman engineer who built a successful firm while raising 14 children—including many adopted "special needs" infants.

Mary-Frances Winters, president, The Winters Group, Inc., Rochester, N.Y., a black woman who beat prejudice and poverty to build a thriving market-research firm.

In addition, Kathy Thebo, an Avon sales representative from Peoria, Ariz., received an honorary Women of Enterprise Award. Thebo, nearly crippled by acute shyness, became an Avon sales representative to help support her four children. Her confidence grew with each new sales call, and she is now Arizona's most successful Avon representative with annual sales of \$125,000.

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## SELF-DEFENSE CLASS FOR WOMEN

A self-defense class for women will be offered this fall at the Stewart/Mojave Sports Center, 275 N. Mojave Rd. The six-week course begins September 14 and continues each Monday and Wednesday thereafter at

6:30 pm. The cost is \$36, with registration continuing through the first day of class.

The course is designed for women age 13 and older, and sponsored by the City of Las Vegas. Call 229-6563.

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