



Chanhassen Mayoral Candidate to Receive University of Oregon's

Becky L. Sisley Award for Leadership and Community Service

Highest University Recognition for Former Female Athlete

Chanhassen, Minn. (September 14, 2018) – Elise Ryan, 12-year Chanhassen resident, to be honored with the Becky L. Sisley Award from the University of Oregon for her professional achievement, leadership and community service. Ryan will accept her award at the Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony on Friday, September 21, 2018. The annual award was created to recognize exceptional former female athletes from the University, 20-25 years after graduation, for their accomplishments as leaders through community service.

“Elise impressed the selection committee by her extremely strong record of community service,” said Becky L. Sisley, for whose namesake the award was established. “From board member to PTA President, to City Council member was most notable. I was thrilled to learn that she is running for Chanhassen mayor, which will provide her with further opportunities to live out her passion of service to others.”

Ryan, a standout tennis player at the University from 1992-1996, has gone on to receive her master's in business administration degree from Johns Hopkins University, serve for more than six years for the City of Chanhassen in two roles – Parks and Recreation Commission, and most recently as City Councilwoman. She is currently running for mayor.

“I am extremely humbled and honored to receive the Becky L. Sisley Award,” said Elise Ryan, former University of Oregon tennis player and Chanhassen mayoral candidate. “Community involvement has always been paramount in my life and the leadership skills I developed at the University of Oregon prepared me well for my role in public office. I continue to be challenged and energized everyday by the community I live and work in.”

The Becky L. Sisley Award was created in 2000 by the Athletic Department to honor a former female athlete for her professional achievement, community service and support for the University. As a coach, administrator, and professor, Sisley strove to level the playing field.

Among Sisley's countless contributions to the University of Oregon is her unrelenting dedication to improving the athletic platform for women. In recognition of her efforts, she was inducted into the University of Oregon Hall of Fame in 1998. As her last legacy at Oregon, she created and taught the course, Women's Sports and Gender Equity for several years after her formal retirement in 2000.

Ryan's tennis accolades from the University of Oregon include:

- All-Time Letter Winner (1992-1996)
- All-Conference Pac 10/12 – First Team (1994)
- All Decade Team (1985-1995)
- All-Conference Pac 10/12 - Second Team (1996)
- Team captain (1995 and 1996)

Over the last decade, Ryan has served in many community roles including:

- President and Vice-President - Excelsior Elementary Parent Teacher Organization (Minnetonka Public Schools)
- Board Member - [Tonka CARES](#), Drug/Alcohol Awareness and Student Advocacy (Minnetonka Public Schools)
- Vice President - [C.A.S.E.](#), Community Action for Student Education (Minnetonka Public Schools)
- Board Member - [Beyond the Yellow Ribbon](#) Chanhassen
- Founding Member - [Chanhassen Red Birds Baseball Team](#)

Ryan will be absent from the [Minnesota League of Women Voter's Candidate Forum for Chanhassen Mayor and City Council](#), which will take place while she is in Eugene, Ore. accepting the award.

To follow Ryan's mayoral campaign, visit www.eliseryan.org and on Facebook at Citizens for Ryan.

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