



Thank you my dear friends Evelon Dale and Dr. Virginia Wood for wonderful introductions of me. And to the Zonta Club I thank you from the bottom of my heart for bestowing this honor of woman of the year upon me. I am very honored and certainly humbled by this gesture.

To my family, friends and staff I thank you for being here tonight to share this special moment with me. Your presence is most meaningful to me. To my mother I say thank you for being here with me and that all I am and continue to be I owe to you. Tonight I dedicate this award to you. You have been my strength, my biggest fan and my greatest role model, I love you very much.

Congratulations to the Zonta Club for all you do for so many. I salute you for being a global organization of professional women working together to advance the status of women through service and advocacy, Thank you for what you do to reduce poverty among families, thank you for what you do to reduce illiteracy, thank you for what you do to prevent family violence and AIDS, and thank you for what you do to preserve and promote human rights. Your efforts make a difference in the world. We need more organizations like the Zonta Club and more women to join your great organization.

My whole life has been given to public service I have tried to live my life with noble character. In our struggle to make the world better we must be committed there is always much work that has to be



done. Every home and neighborhood in the world needs to be safe, warm, and healthy. Goodness and change are possible in every single one of us.

I enjoy being a Cameron County Commissioner. Each day I wake up with energy and passion in my heart to make our county a better place to live, work and raise a family. With many projects on the horizon I welcome the challenge and look forward to the opportunity to continue to improve the quality of life for everyone in our region.

I have traveled the roads of Brownsville and talked to families about their dreams and challenges. Together we have a vision for our community and embrace The Imagine Brownsville project.

I believe we are all given the power to use our own lives for instruments of good. I will strive for excellence and bring that excellence to our people. Tonight I challenge all of us to believe in hope for a better brighter tomorrow. Again than you for this honor and may god bless all of you and may God Bless America.