



Date: June 7, 2005

COMMERCE HONORS BUSINESSES IN EAST CENTRAL KANSAS

Today several businesses in East Central Kansas were recognized for the contributions they make to their local communities and to the state economy, when officials from the Kansas Department of Commerce (Commerce) held a regional awards ceremony in Kansas City, Kansas at the Hilton Garden Inn, Reardon Center, as part of Kansas Business Appreciation Month.

"It is with great pleasure we recognize these and other outstanding Kansas companies, which have been nominated by people and organizations in their communities," said Commerce Secretary Howard Fricke. "While June is set aside for Business Appreciation Month, it is my hope that Kansans will recognize the crucial role local businesses play in their communities throughout the year."

Seven regional ceremonies are being held statewide throughout the month of June. At each ceremony, one company in each of four categories (Distribution, Manufacturing, Retail, and Service) is selected to win a Regional Achievement Award.

In the East Central Kansas region, the winners of Regional Achievement Awards are:

Distribution -- Marlow White Uniforms, Inc., Leavenworth
Manufacturing -- Cramer Products Inc., Gardner
Service -- Dr's Hawks, Besler & Rogers, Gardner
Retail -- Douglass National Bank, Kansas City

Dr.'s Hawks, Besler & Rogers, are also finalists for the Governor's Award of Excellence, the highest honor a business can receive from the state. Governor Kathleen Sebelius acknowledged their achievements at the Kansas Cavalry Encampment in Topeka on June 1.

The following companies received Merit Awards:

Manufacturing:

AFG Industries Inc., Spring Hill
Bayer HealthCare, LLC - Animal Health Division, Shawnee
Central Fiber Corporation, Wellsville
Cereal Ingredients, Inc., Leavenworth
CSE Emblems, Inc., Basehor
Deciphera Pharmaceuticals, Lawrence
Huhtamaki Americas, Inc., De Soto
JRH Biosciences, Inc, Lenexa
PROSOCO, Inc., Lawrence
Rabbit Creek Products, Louisburg
Shawnee Rock Co., Shawnee
The World Company, Lawrence
Zephyr Products, Inc., Leavenworth

Retail:

BlackHawk Development, Spring Hill
Blessed Treasures, Osawatomie
Cottage Designs Studio, Louisburg
Holderman Printing, LLC, Paola
National Bank Of Kansas City, Overland Park
WKRP dba Pizza Hut, Lansing
Z's Divine Espresso, Inc., Lawrence

Service:

Associates in Family Health Care, Lansing
Bartunek Technology Group, Inc., Overland Park
Canaan Oaks Bed & Breakfast Showplace, Paola
County Vintage Inn, Inc., Osawatomie
Day Brook Learning Center LLC, Spring Hill
Dick Cameron Insurance Agency Inc., Lansing
Greenamyre Rentals, Inc., Leavenworth
Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites, Lansing
Larkin Excavating Inc., Lansing
Miami County Swan River Museum, Paola
Miles Excavating, Inc., Basehor
Multi Service, Overland Park

Myjoecard.com, LLC-Johns County's Business Network, Overland Park
Suburban Water Company, Basehor
Sutherland Family Limited Partnership, Paola
Taylor Design Group, P.A., Ottawa
Vintage Park, Paola

Other Business Appreciation Month events are being held in Colby, Dodge City, Iola, Topeka, Wamego and Wellington. For more information on Kansas Business Appreciation Month, contact Kristy Druse at (785) 296-3805 or kdruse@kansascommerce.com or visit the Commerce website at www.kansascommerce.com and enter connect code: KBAMMEDIA.

Funding for Business Appreciation Month activities is provided by the Economic Development Initiatives Fund (EDIF), which is derived from state lottery proceeds, and also by the Kansas Cavalry, a volunteer group whose members support economic development and serve as business ambassadors for the state.

The mission of the Kansas Department of Commerce is to empower business and communities through bold leadership using strategic resources to realize prosperity in Kansas.
Source: Commerce

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