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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SHAWNEE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 2009 ANNUAL DINNER, AN EVENING OF GOOD FORTUNE  
*The Chamber's 2009 Annual Dinner, "Good Fortune Starts Here,"*  
*Was an evening to remember, with good business, good dining, good laughs and good company.*

SHAWNEE, Kan. – The Shawnee Chamber of Commerce 2009 Annual Dinner, *Good Fortune Starts Here*, Saturday, Jan. 30, 2010, at the Sheraton Overland Park Hotel was a memorable evening of honoring the 2009 Chairman of the Board of Directors John Miller, Lake Quivira Country Club, and welcoming the 2010 Chairman of the Board Tim Harmon, Harmon Construction, Inc. The gavel was passed from Miller to Harmon, and the Chamber and its membership look forward to another prosperous year in 2010.



2009 Chairman of the Board John Miller with  
2010 Chairman of the Board Tim Harmon

The evening would not have been possible without the on-going efforts and dedication of the Chamber's Annual Dinner Committee. For months, the following volunteers have been compiling ideas and concepts to make the evening a success: Chair Lori Barngrover, LA Graphics; Co Chair Chris Gorup, Shawnee Mission Ford; Co Chair Jody Adams, JRA Baskets; Dana Blubaugh, Pittsburg State University; Karen Boyd, Johnson County Christmas Bureau; Sue Brothers, Mobile Symmetry; Devran Brower, The Halcyon Group; Danielle Browning, KCP&L; Melissa Harris, Brothers and Associates LLC; Dawn Kuhn, Bank Midwest; Diane Myers, First National Bank of Olathe; Jean Nelson, Porter Funeral Homes and Crematory; Pat Sims, Commerce Bank; Claudia Taylor, AAA Travel Shawnee; Tara Wakefield, Kansas City First Aid; Dale Warman; and Teresa Weems, Harmon Construction, Inc. Thank you!

Thank you Bayer HealthCare LLC, Animal Health Division for being the event's Presenting Sponsor since year 2004. Diamond-Level Sponsors include Bayer HealthCare LLC, Animal Health Division; Brotherhood Bank and Trust; and Deffenbaugh Industries. Emerald-Level Sponsors include AT&T; Bank of Blue Valley; City of Shawnee; Commerce Bank; Country Club Bank; First National Bank of Olathe; Great Western Bank; KU MedWest; Rodrock Development; The Shawnee Dispatch; Shawnee Mission Ford; Shawnee Mission Medical Center; and Zarda/Rieke Development Corp. Ruby-Level Sponsors include Edward Jones Investments, Warren Pray; GBA George Butler Associates, Inc.; Harmon Construction, Inc.; M&I Bank; Porter Funeral Homes and Crematory; Sign-A-Rama; Terracon Consultants, Inc.; The Mission Bank; The Vaught Group; and Weaver's Auto Center, Inc. Pearl-Level Sponsors include AAA Travel Shawnee; American Family Insurance, Paul Ridgway; Amos Family Funeral Home; Appreciated Advertising, Inc.; Argentine Federal Savings; biz2biz Connections; Farmers Insurance, Joe Vohs; Hammond Chiropractic; INTRUST Bank, N.A.; Leon Logan CPA, P.A.; McAnany Construction, Inc.; Meadows Optical; Paramount Promotions LLC; R.H. Painting, Inc.; Reece and Nichols, Carole Collyard; State Farm Insurance, Patricia Lyles; State Farm Insurance, John Wills; Waddell and Reed Financial Advisors; The Sweet Life; and The Whale Spout Car Wash. Thank you Capitol Federal Savings Bank for sponsoring the event's program, Bank Midwest for being the Specialty-Drink Sponsor, LA Graphics for its in-kind support and Atkins Photography for capturing the memories of the evening. Thank you to all of the event's sponsors for your continued support and dedication to the Chamber.

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Both auctions, silent and live, are features of the evening, raising money to support the Betty Charlton Scholarship Fund, founded in year 1997 as a tribute to Betty Charlton and supports high-school seniors in the community today. The silent and live auctions, emceed by Mike Thompson, FOX 4 News, and Tom Lindsay, Lindsay Auction Service, were both exciting and successful! Thank you, Thompson and Lindsay, for your services and time, and thank you to the Chamber members and others who donated their products and services to the auctions.

Once dinner had been served and the auctions were underway, it was time to recognize an important citizen. Since 1972, this event has included the awarding of the Citizen of the Year, a distinction awarded to an individual who has worked hard to make Shawnee a better place to live, work and grow. Nominations for this award are submitted by the Chamber's membership and voted on by a representation of past, award recipients. Congratulations to the 2009 Citizen of the Year award recipient, Mayor Jeff Meyers. Humbled by his recognition, Mayor Meyers accepted the award and gave a very nice speech, thanking his wife, family, the Chamber and the Shawnee community. Meyers has served as the Mayor of Shawnee since April 2004, previously serving on City Council. Thank you, Mayor, for everything you do for Shawnee and the community.



*2010 Executive Committee Jack Wagner, John Miller, Linda Leeper, Tim Harmon and Steve Hale*

Miller recognized the retiring 2009 Board Directors Tony Adams, Weaver's Auto Center, Inc.; Kevin Bennett, Bennett, Bodine and Waters, P.A.; Phil McAnany, McAnany Construction, Inc.; Carole Prentice, We Do Windows; and Bob Walker, Bayer HealthCare LLC, Animal Health Division. Also acknowledged, 2009 Ambassador of the Year Chris Gorup, Shawnee Mission Ford, and the 2009 Chamber Star Jean Nelson, Porter Funeral Homes and Crematory. Upon Harmon being recognized as the 2010 Chairman of the Board, the 2010 Board of Directors of the Shawnee Chamber of Commerce and the 2010 Executive Committee were introduced to the audience. Closing remarks were made by President | CEO

Linda Leeper, Shawnee Chamber of Commerce, and the event concluded with a bit of dancing, all in good company and fun.

### About the Chamber:

Established in 1946, the Shawnee Chamber of Commerce is a membership organization that works to preserve the best possible business climate and quality of life for Shawnee. With nearly 700 business members, the Shawnee Chamber Corporation (501C6) is comprised of three divisions: the Shawnee Chamber of Commerce, the Shawnee Economic Development Council, and the Shawnee Convention and Visitor's Bureau. For more information, contact us at 913.631.6545 or visit our website at [www.goodstartshere.com](http://www.goodstartshere.com).

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For more information on this press release and the Shawnee Chamber of Commerce 2009 Annual Dinner, please contact President | CEO Linda Leeper by telephone, 913.631.6545, or email, [lleeper@shawneechamber.com](mailto:lleeper@shawneechamber.com).