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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BUSINESS-APPRECIATION LUNCHEON AWARDS SHAWNEE BUSINESSES, DEVELOPMENTS

Shawnee Economic Development Council, Shawnee Chamber of Commerce award city businesses, developments for city, community contributions

SHAWNEE, Kan. – Shawnee businesses and developments received awards Tuesday from the Shawnee Economic Development Council (SEDC) and the Shawnee Chamber of Commerce for their continuous support and contributions to the city.

Business-Development Awards were given based on specific criteria – must be a significant investment of at least \$1 mil. and/or provide a significant job creation in addition to the projects must be, or have been, complete in the last 12 months. The following businesses received Business-Development Awards: Brotherhood Bank & Trust; Continental Cast Stone, Mfg.; Crown Group; Expressway Auto Wash; Family Video Movie Club; Hans Rudolph, Inc.; K-7 Self Storage; TLY Properties LLC; Walgreen Co.; Wal-Mart Supercenter; and Widmer Shoppes.

The State of Kansas 2009 Business-Excellence Award was presented to Shawnee Mission Medical Center for not only its on-going support of the city of Shawnee and the Chamber but Johnson County as well. Shawnee Mission Medical Center is the recipient of this award for a wide range of reasons, including its significant investment in the state of Kansas; its wide-ranging health services available to the public; its employee-friendly programs like on-site daycare, employee training and career-development opportunities; and its financial support of the community's events, which is indescribably appreciated.

The Downtown-Impact Award was created by the SEDC executive committee to recognize the business-development project with the greatest impact on the city of Shawnee's downtown area in the last 12 months. Projects could include added investment and property-tax base; significant job creation; and/or enhanced visitor attraction. The recipient was selected by the Shawnee Downtown Partnership. Congratulations to Bam's Big Burgers for receiving this award.

The Downtown-Revitalization Award was created by the SEDC executive committee to honor the business that made the most significant improvement to the outside appearance of a downtown, commercial building during the last 12 months. Recipients were selected by the Shawnee Downtown Partnership. Congratulations to both 59 Plaza, LLC, for the Shawnee Plaza and Lino's Holdings LLC for Lino's Barton Place Phase One.

A special recognition of a business that has played a major role in shaping the face of the community and making a tremendous contribution to the city over a longer period of time was awarded to Deffenbaugh Industries by the Chamber. Deffenbaugh Industries is the Hall-of-Fame-Award recipient for year 2009, and it is sincerely thanked for its contributions to both the city and community.

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If you would like more information on the Business-Appreciation Luncheon and/or award recipients, please contact either Jim Martin, SEDC executive director, or Linda Leeper, Chamber president, at 913 | 631 | 6545.