



NEWS RELEASE

WYOMING DISTRICT OFFICE

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Contact: Sharon Nichols (307) 261-6508
Internet Address: <http://www.sba.gov/wy>

Wyoming Small Business Week 2009 Winners Announced

WYOMING - The small business awards are a highlight of SBA's National Small Business Week celebration, May 18th through May 22nd. National Small Business Week honors the contributions of the nation's small business owners. The winners are selected on their staying power, growth in number of employees, increase in sales, financial condition, innovation, response to adversity, community service and assistance to small business. Involvement with SBA is not necessary, although many of the winners have received some type of assistance from the SBA or those partnering with it.

Wyoming's small business supporters host special events to honor and present awards to entrepreneurs and small business champions. Wyoming's winners for 2009 are:

- ◆ Wyoming Small Business Person of the Year, Van and Jody Ewing, Van Ewing Construction, Inc., Gillette;
- ◆ SBA Young Entrepreneur of the Year, Kenneth Holloway, SAME Music and The Jazz Spot, Casper;
- ◆ Jeffrey Butland Family-Owned Business of the Year, Thomas and Sandra Lavin, Lavin Tile and Stone, Inc., Casper;
- ◆ Financial Services Champion of the Year, Wind River Development Fund, Lisa Wagner, Director, Fort Washakie;
- ◆ Home-Based Business Champion of the Year, Stanford Addison Ranch, Stanford Addison, Arapahoe;
- ◆ Minority Small Business Champion, Dave Potter, President, Wells Fargo Bank, Riverton;
- ◆ Small Business Journalist of the Year, Le Ann Baker, Executive Director, Washakie Development Association, Worland;
- ◆ Veteran Small Business Champion of the Year, Cliff A. Knesel, Vice President, Peregrine Leadership Institute LLC, Gillette;
- ◆ Women in Business Champion of the Year, Janet L. Hartford, Executive Director, Green River Chamber, Green River;
- ◆ Small Business Development Center Service Excellence and Innovation Center Award, Marjorie Rowell, Regional Director, Small Business Development Center, Riverton.

Please congratulate these outstanding entrepreneurs and small businesses, as they are key to small business and the backbone of our nation.

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For more information about SBA's programs for small businesses, call (307) 261-6500 or TDY (307) 261-6527 or visit the SBA's extensive Web site at www.sba.gov/wy

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