



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Arvada recognizes its outstanding businesses!

Arvada, CO - The Arvada Economic Development Association (AEDA) and the City of Arvada hosted the Eleventh Annual Business Appreciation event on October 7. The evening celebration featured guest speaker Reggie Rivers, a former Denver Bronco football player, who shared his views on leadership and business. The event was planned to show appreciation to Arvada businesses, to offer participants the opportunity to meet new business contacts, and to network. Alan Parker, AEDA President, and Mayor Ken Fellman presented twelve awards to Arvada's outstanding businesses based on community involvement, capital investment, employment, and overall commitment to the community. About 150 Arvada-based business leaders and their guests attended the event.

Steve & Dave Echter of Echter's Greenhouses were honored with the prestigious Lloyd J. King Entrepreneurial Spirit Award. The award was established to honor individuals whose traits and character typify an extraordinary entrepreneur. Steve and Dave Echter acquired the family-owned business in 1959 and attributed their savvy business skills, work ethic, and ability to revolutionize the business to their parent's influence. Echter's Greenhouses is regionally known as a complete nursery, garden center, and patio store.

Outstanding Arvada Business Awards were presented to: The **Arvada Press**, a premier Arvada hometown newspaper that connects and improves communities with newsworthy news published by **Mile High Newspapers, Inc.** The company completed an extensive planning and research project by "re-inventing" the 40-year-old *Arvada Sentinel* through conversion to the *Arvada Press* providing a stronger vehicle for businesses to reach community

consumers; **Ehrman & Associates**, a leader in the employee benefits brokerage industry specializing in benefit solutions for small and mid-sized employers in Colorado and surrounding states; **Grandma's Frozen Pasta**, a family-owned business producing fresh frozen pasta for over 44 years; **Industrialex Manufacturing Corporation**, a manufacturing company providing industrial coating services nationally and internationally; **Oasis Day Spa**, providing innovative spa packages since 1995; **PeaceJam Foundation**, a non-profit organization offering an international education program designed to encompass leading Nobel Peace Laureates who work personally with youth; **Professional Investigative Engineers**, a forensic engineering firm specializing in the support of construction, insurance, litigation, and property investment professionals; **Seasons Gourmet Market**, a retail business providing distinctive gourmet food gift baskets and catering services for a broad range of clients; **Steve's Meat Market**, a unique meat market offering custom wild game processing who most recently added a new retail department with numerous types of jerky, meats, and exotic sausages; **The Old Neighborhood Restaurant**, a community minded, family-owned business offering fine dining since 1980; and **Wanco, Inc.**, a premier manufacturing company providing highway safety and traffic control products to national and international clients. In addition, a special "Community Spirit Award" was presented to **Hereford Percy** for his significant involvement and commitment to the Arvada community.

AEDA is the community's business-to-government liaison and a strategic resource for business growth. Operationally funded by the City of Arvada, AEDA's board of directors consists of fifteen business and community volunteers dedicated to attracting targeted industries and helping current businesses thrive.

AEDA is proud of its strong partnership with the City of Arvada and the business community. There are many outstanding businesses located in Arvada and AEDA acknowledges with gratitude the diverse contributions of each and every one.

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