

13th Annual LADCO/Coulee Bank Industry Appreciation Breakfast

Tuesday, July 14th, 2009

The 13th Annual LADCO/Coulee Bank Industry Appreciation Breakfast was held on Tuesday, July 14th in the Radisson Hotel Ballroom with over 200 business and community leaders in attendance. This important event is designed to say "thank you" to the important businesses and industries that make the La Crosse Area a great place to live, work, and play. In addition to recognizing a growing local company with the Diamond Recognition Award, the architects of new business ideas are recognized for their winning efforts in the *LADCO/CenturyTel Entrepreneurial Initiative Business Plan Competition*. The Triangle of Achievement Award, the area's first collaboration award, is annually conferred upon organizations and/or companies which have teamed up to bring an important economic development project to fruition or collaborated to resolve an issue central to the area's economic development.

Wisconsin Superintendent of Public Instruction, Dr. Tony Evers, served as keynote speaker. Dr. Evers drove home the message that educational success in Wisconsin equals business success. He noted the many collaborative efforts that are currently underway between business and education and called for the continuation and expansion of such initiatives. Guests also had the opportunity to hear from newly elected Wisconsin Assembly Speaker Mike Sheridan regarding his visions for Wisconsin's future.



LEFT: *Keynote Speaker: Dr. Tony Evers, WI Superintendent of Public Instruction*; RIGHT: *Wisconsin State Assembly Speaker Mike Sheridan*

The 2009 Diamond Recognition Award, recognizing leadership, quality, innovation, expansion and job creation, was presented to McKesson Corporation. McKesson's history in La Crosse dates back to the 1880s and Dr. Frank Powell. Today, McKesson's La Crosse Distribution Center employs over 100 individuals and has annual revenues of over \$1.3 billion.



Diamond Recognition Award: McKesson Corporation

The Triangle of Achievement Award was conferred upon the parties that collaborated to bring the Myrick Hixon EcoPark to fruition - the City of La Crosse, the La Crosse Area Rotary Clubs and the Myrick Hixon EcoPark Board of Directors. These parties have recently cut the ribbon on the new nature center and continue to work toward completion of the zoo which will provide a great benefit for local citizens and tourists alike.



Triangle of Achievement Award: Myrick Hixon EcoPark

Three winner of the LADCO/CenturyTel Entrepreneurial Initiative Business Plan Competition include:



LEFT: 1st Place: Thorson Graphics; RIGHT: 2nd Place: Little Lights Child Care Center; CENTER: 3rd Place: Millenium Memories