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EconomicDevelopmentGroup
of Kittitas County



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Shoemaker Manufacturing, one of the last major, privately owned manufacturing companies in America, named Business of the Year

ELLENSBURG, WA – March 29, 2007 – The Economic Development Group of Kittitas County (EDGKC) is pleased to announce this year's **Overall** Kittitas County Business of the Year: Shoemaker Manufacturing Company located in Cle Elum, Washington.

Established in 1947, Shoemaker manufactures registers, grills, diffusers, louvers and dampers that are sold both domestically and internationally. Shoemaker is locally owned and remains one of the last major, privately owned register manufacturers in America. Shoemaker is also one of the largest private employers in Kittitas County.

Mark Holloway and Donna Malek, owners of D&M Coffee and 2006 Overall Kittitas County Business of the Year, presented this year's award to Jerry and Patricia Hein, owners of Shoemaker Manufacturing.

A total of six awards are presented annually. Five of the awards are given based on the main business location: Cle Elum / South Cle Elum, Roslyn, Kittitas, Ellensburg and unincorporated Kittitas County. Award winners by geographic location are: Village Pizza, Roslyn; Shoemaker Manufacturing, Cle Elum/South Cle Elum; Sure Shot Gun & Pawn, Kittitas; Jerrol's Book & Supply Company, Ellensburg; and Knudson Lumber Company, for unincorporated Kittitas County.

The purpose of the Kittitas County Business of the Year Awards is to recognize outstanding businesses throughout Kittitas County that demonstrate stability, innovation, commitment to community, and have had a positive economic impact on the county.

"Honoring outstanding local businesses is just one small way to show their overall importance in our community," said Debbie Strand, Executive Director EDGKC. "All of the businesses that were nominated are very deserving. We are fortunate to have businesses, large and small, such as these throughout Kittitas County. Congratulations to all of the winners."

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The Economic Development Group's mission is to provide leadership that stimulates business and promotes economic opportunities to support the needs of Kittitas County. The focus of the organization is on activities associated with business recruitment, retention and expansion.

Contact: Debbie Strand CEcD, Executive Director
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Contacts for Kittitas County Business of the Year Winners:

Village Pizza
Michelle Chandler, Owner
Phone: 509-649-2992

Shoemaker Manufacturing
Jerry Hein, Owner
Richard Low, President
Phone: 509-674-5923

Sure Shot Guns & Pawn
Todd & Melody Lopeman, Owners
Phone: 509-968-4867

Jerrold's Book & Supply Company
Rolf Williams, Owner
Phone: 509-925-9851

Knudson Lumber
Kari Shelley, Manager
Phone: 509-962-9811

Contact for Keynote Speaker Bob Drewel, Executive Director Puget Sound Regional Council
Olivia Robinson
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Roslyn
Village Pizza

Family owned and operated, under new ownership since 2003, Village Pizza creates gourmet pizza using freshly made dough and homemade sauce. Village Pizza also serves fresh salads, wine and local Micro-brews.

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Kittitas

Sure Shot Guns & Pawn

Family owned and operated since 1999, Sure Shot Gun & Pawn is a retail sporting goods, clothing, archery, guns, and tools store. Sure Shot Gun & Pawn also issues short-term loans secured in exchange for personal property.

Ellensburg

Jerrold's Book & Supply Company

Jerrold's Book & Supply Company, established in 1947, is a family owned and operated academic mercantile. Jerrold's provides textbooks, art supplies, clothing, CWU memorabilia, and all types of school related supplies. Jerrold's trade book department specializes in regional history books and maps. Jerrold's has been an active history as a business

Unincorporated Kittitas County

Knudson Lumber

Knudson Lumber, established in 1937, is a full service lumberyard with delivery to Kittitas County and beyond. Knudson Lumber has one of the largest selections of timbers in Central Washington, along with doors, windows, metal roofing, siding, decking, paint, and pavers. Knudson's

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