

January 29, 2010

Chamber presents business honors

Staff reports

The Greenville Chamber of Commerce presented its 2009 awards at its 121st annual meeting Thursday at Carolina First Center.

Recipients were:

- Buck Mickel Leadership Award, sponsored by AT&T: Bob Hughes of Hughes Development, recognized for leadership in community issues, strengthening the community or providing visionary leadership.
 - Chairman's Award, sponsored by Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart: Frank Wingate of The Palmetto Bank, recognized for leadership and dedication to the Greenville Chamber.
 - Small Business of the Year, sponsored by Dixon Hughes: Graphic Cow, recognized for the spirit of entrepreneurship.
 - Minority Business of the Year, sponsored by Bank of America: **Bunty LLC, given to a minority-owned company that has been in business for at least three years.**
 - Young Professional of the Year, sponsored by BB&T: Melinda Davis Lux of Wyche Burgess Freeman & Parham, recognized for involvement in the community.
 - The Athena Award, sponsored by Independence National Bank: Minor Shaw, owner of Micco Corp., recognized for assisting women in reaching their leadership potential; demonstrating excellence, creativity and initiative in their business or profession; and devoting time and energy to improve the quality of life for others.
 - Max Heller Neighborhood Improvement Award, sponsored by Wachovia Bank: Homes of Hope, recognized for showing exemplary efforts toward neighborhood improvement and empowerment.
 - Ambassador of the Year: Justin Williams of Sharp Business Systems, recognized for making a significant contribution to the Chamber's retention efforts.
 - Arts Leadership Award, sponsored by The Peace Center for the Performing Arts: Alan Ethridge, executive director of the Metropolitan Arts Council, recognized for exemplary leadership in promoting and advocating the arts on behalf of the Greenville community.
 - The Special Chairman's Award for Education in Business, for contributions to the economic advancement of Greenville: Dr. Caron St. John, professor and director of the Spiro Institute for Entrepreneurial Leadership at Clemson University; and Dr. Chris Przirembel, Clemson's vice president of research and economic development.
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