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LINDENWOOD

Civic group to recognize LU, Boone Home

Chesterfield Area Civic Progress will recognize the contributions of two educational institutions, a senator and the world's largest pharmaceutical company at its 12th annual Excellence in Community Development Awards luncheon.

As has become tradition, the affair will be held on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving, Nov. 26., at the Doubletree Hotel in Chesterfield.

Event emcees are Rev. Jeff Perry, a past recipient and pastor of the St. Louis Family Church, and Tom Shaw Sr., president of Shaw Realtors and a founding director of the CACP. Missouri Secretary of State Matt Blunt will be the featured speaker.

Recipients of the 2003 edition of Excellence in Community Development are Sen. Jim Talent, Christian Brothers College High School, Lindenwood University's Daniel Boone Home and Pfizer Inc.

Shaw said "You encourage what you honor, and for more than a decade, we have encouraged policies and actions that are pro-growth, pro-job and pro-region. This year we also recognize the importance of preserving our region's heritage."

John Hammond, a member of the Lindenwood Board of Directors, is president of CACP and the former owner of GW Composites in O'Fallon, Mo. He said, "Our selection of Senator Talent goes back, in part, to the help he provided during the flood of 1993 when he was in the House. He's also our first senator to hail from the city of Chesterfield. We think he and his family represent the typical Chesterfield family - except that Jim's a member of the world's most exclusive club."

Hammond said the architecture of CBC's new campus at Interstates 270 and 64 helped win the 154-year-old prep school recognition.

"The presentation of their new campus on Highway 40 is very striking," he said, "and after a couple of decades of architectural minimalism, we were pleased that they made a statement not just about who they are but who they have been. It's traditional, and it stands out."

After acquiring Pharmacia, Hammond said, Pfizer's decision to restructure their 200-acre Chesterfield campus as one of its six research sites worldwide meant the retention of 1000 jobs.

"These are high-tech, high-paying jobs," said Hammond. "The campus is in our city, but the jobs will help the whole region's economy."

Hammond thinks Pfizer will generate birds-of-a-feather benefits: "Ph.D.s attract other Ph.D.s. We hope this will be a magnet to more high-tech companies who want to leverage the capabilities of the people in our area and the innovations that come out of our research institutions."

The fourth recipient is the Daniel Boone Home in Defiance, Mo., owned by St. Charles-based Lindenwood

University.

“We wanted to recognize their efforts to preserve the Boone Home,” said Hammond. “Had Lindenwood not done this, there was no way to ensure its preservation in perpetuity. Now that they own it, it’s also been the basis for the school’s National Center for the Study of American Culture and Values.”

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