
Eugene chamber honors local businesses

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Five local businesses were honored by the Eugene Area Chamber of Commerce on Tuesday night for their contributions to the community's vitality and quality of life.

PacificSource Health Plans received the Emerald Award for Community Caring. PacificSource was cited for commitments made through its foundation, for promoting employee community involvement and support of United Way.

Café Yumm! received the Emerald Award for Environmental Values for "incorporating sustainability and preservation into every aspect of its enterprise." The company uses a wide variety of recycled and Earth-friendly products in its construction and design, and common restaurant elements are created from recycled agricultural waste, the chamber said.

Bow-Tech received the Emerald Award for Growth for adding 141 jobs from January 2005 to December 2006, the chamber said, and for offering "excellent employee benefits and demonstrating revenue growth."

Life Technologies received the Emerald Award for Innovation for developing assistive technology software to improve the lives of more than 13 million Americans with cognitive impairments, the chamber said, adding, "The company enhances independent living and improves quality of life for people throughout the world."

Wildish Land Co. previously was announced as the winner of the newly created Emerald Award for Business of the Year.

The chamber said Wildish was selected for its strong community leadership and for demonstrating a long-standing commitment to sustainable business practices.

More than 400 local business and community leaders attended the fourth annual Emerald Awards ceremony, which was held at the Hult Center. Winners were selected from nearly 90 nominations.

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