



EMBARGOED UNTIL 2PM, WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 2006

Bay Pharmacy Named Entrepreneurs of the Year

Wednesday, May 10, 2006

Door County, WI -The Door County Economic Development Corporation announced today that Bay Pharmacy, co-owned by Tom Voegele and Gregory Rohde, is the winner of the third annual Door County Entrepreneur of the Year Award. The announcement came this afternoon during the DCEDC annual investors meeting at Stone Harbor Resort & Conference Center in Sturgeon Bay.

Bay Pharmacy has been building its reputation for over thirty-two years. Current owners Greg Rohde and Tom Voegele have grown and established Bay Pharmacy as one of the top independent pharmacies in the nation and have been nationally recognized by *Drug Topics* magazine in 1993 and 1994. Over the past two decades, Bay Pharmacy has faced strong competition from big box stores and national and regional chains. Because of very progressive programs and management, however, the company has continued to grow, adding 7000 square feet since 2003 and completely remodeling their retail space last year.

The staff, currently numbering 46, has also continued to grow through education and dedication to an ongoing commitment to the community. As part of its commitment, Bay Pharmacy has long supported local groups, charities, fundraisers and individuals with monetary or merchandise donations. Many local social and civic organizations have benefited from Bay Pharmacy employees doing presentations on various health issues and topics.

Bay Pharmacy was instrumental in organizing and participating in the first medical equipment recycling program in the state of Wisconsin. Bay Pharmacy staff locally collected used equipment such as wheelchairs, walkers and hospital beds, which was then sent to Madison to be refurbished for needy individuals throughout the state. Bay Pharmacy was also involved in Hurricane Katrina relief, donating over \$34,000 in supplies and used medical equipment to the Gulf Coast region.

One of Bay Pharmacy's latest projects has been to assist in educating the public on the new Medicare Part D drug program. Earlier this year, Greg Rohde traveled to Florida for four days of intensive education on the Part D program. Since returning, Greg and his staff have provided over thirty hours of educational seminars in the county.

"It is our pleasure to recognize Bay Pharmacy with the Entrepreneur of the Year award," said DCEDC Executive Director Bill Chaudoir. "This longstanding business has been one of the pillars of Sturgeon Bay for many decades. We are happy to salute their continued presence and active involvement in our community."

The Entrepreneur of the Year Award, first granted to Door County Coffee & Tea founder Victoria Wilson, celebrates those individuals or small companies who have taken the initiative to start and grow a successful small business in Door County. Eligible businesses include those with fewer than 50 employees, exhibiting exciting growth potential and that have at least three years of successful business experience. Last year's winners were Door County Hardware of Sturgeon Bay, co-owned by Dan and Tom Austad.

Founded in 1989, the Door County Economic Development Corporation is a public/private partnership dedicated to improving the economic vitality of the county and its residents. Door County Economic Development Corporation is located within the small business incubator DCEDC founded in 1997 at 185 East Walnut Street, Sturgeon Bay. For more information, please contact DCEDC at (920) 743-3113, on the web at www.doorcountybusiness.com or by email at sam@doorcountybusiness.com.