



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Meissner Landscape Inc. Named Entrepreneurs of the Year

Tuesday, April 24, 2007

Door County, WI -The Door County Economic Development Corporation announced today that Meissner Landscape Inc., co-owned by Greg and Marsha Meissner, is the winner of the fourth 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.

Meissner Landscape, Inc. is an organization that prides itself on honesty, integrity and service to customers. In 1982, Greg and Marsha Meissner bought the landscape contracting division from a local nursery business and relocated their new company to its present location on County Highway T in Sturgeon Bay. With the business came experienced people, several of whom remain with the company today.

Meissner Landscape has expanded from a two-crew business in 1982 to one sending out six construction and two maintenance crews each day. The company employs fourteen full time and seven part time employees year round, with an additional six to seven employees hired to help with the workload during the busiest part of the season.

Company growth has been steady over the past 24 years, with sales increasing more than 17 times since 1982. This history of successful development can be traced to the simple fact that Meissner Landscape supplies quality products and first class workmanship to all clients. Because of their commitment to quality, both peers and customers recognize Meissner Landscape as a leader in the industry.

The company's outstanding staff, complete inventory and efficient facilities form a strong foundation on which it can base its continued growth. A true family business, Greg and Marsha's son Nick joined the company in 2003 after graduating from the University of Minnesota, providing a smooth transition for the future.

Greg and Marsha have been involved in a number of local community organizations over the years, including Rotary International, Crossroads at Big Creek, the Fairfield Center for Contemporary Art, the Door County Community Foundation and the Sturgeon Bay Visitor and Convention Bureau. Regionally, Greg has served on the Board of Directors for the Green Bay Botanical Garden, the advisory committee for the NWTC Horticulture Program and with the Green Bay chapter and statewide Wisconsin Landscape Contractors Associations.

"It is our pleasure to recognize Meissner Landscape with the Entrepreneur of the Year award," said DCEDC Executive Director Bill Chaudoir. "Greg and Marsha's commitment to quality work and exceptional customer service could serve as a model for any industry and has enabled them to grow a thriving company. We congratulate them on their 25 years in business and wish them continued success."

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 Bay Pharmacy, co-owned by Tom Voegele and Gregory Rohde.

The Door County Economic Development Corporation (DCEDC) is a public/private partnership dedicated to improving the economic vitality of the county and its residents. Founded in 1989, DCEDC has been successful in helping existing businesses create and retain thousands of jobs through a myriad of programs and initiatives. Additionally, DCEDC places strong emphasis on fostering entrepreneurial instincts in county residents as well as those who vacation on the Door County Peninsula. Door County Economic Development Corporation offices are located within the small business incubator DCEDC founded in 1997 at 185 East Walnut Street in the Sturgeon Bay Industrial Park.