

free eNewsletters!

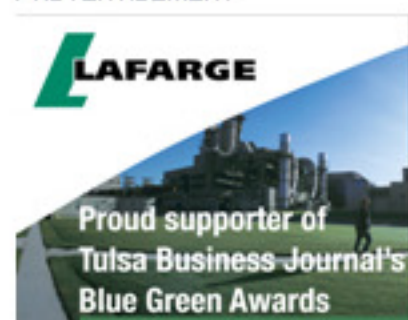
Sign up now for free updates from our newsroom!

enter email here

[» manage enews](#)**industry news**

- + Aerospace
- + Agriculture
- + Architecture
- + Banking & Finance
- + Business Services
- + Construction
- + Education
- + Energy
- + Entertainment
- + Gaming
- + Government & Politics
- + Health Care
- + Insurance
- + Investments
- + Legal
- + Manufacturing
- + Media & Marketing
- + Nonprofits
- + Public Companies
- + Real Estate
- + Restaurants & Food
- + Retail
- + Small Business
- + Technology & Telecom
- + Tourism
- + Transportation

> ADVERTISEMENT



Thursday, April 29, 2010

> ADVERTISEMENT

TBJ ARTICLE**TMC announces Small Business Awards recipients**

Tulsa Business Staff

4/28/2010

Today, the Tulsa Metro Chamber announced the recipients of its annual Small Business Awards at a luncheon and program hosted by the Tulsa Marriott Southern Hills.

The ceremony aims to honor and recognize local small business owners and entrepreneurs. Don Walker, president of Arvest Bank and chamber chairman, said that, in times of economic turmoil, "entrepreneurs and entrepreneurial spirit really starts to expand," and he praised those individuals for taking risks and creating jobs in Tulsa.



From left, Don Walker, president of Arvest Bank and Tulsa Metro Chamber chairman; Brad Frank, keynote speaker at the event and president of Tulsa Tube Bending; and Mike Neal, TMC president, congratulate Marilyn Boyce, president of Ambitious Web Services, for winning the Home-Based Business Champion award.

[print preview](#) [send article](#)

Winners of the 2010 Small Business Awards are:

Small Business Person of the Year: Bill Fournet, president and CEO of The Persimmon Group, a business consulting firm founded in 2004;

Home-based Business Champion: Marilyn Boyce, founder and president of Ambitious Web Services, seller and promoter of products and services designed to ensure the success of other home-based businesses;

Young Entrepreneur of the Year: Kelsey Eakin, president and CEO of Keltech, an IT services company founded in 2005 when Eakin was 21 years old;

Small Business Financial Services Champion: Sean Kouplen, president and CEO of Regent Bank, a regional bank known for its business services;

Minority Small Business Champion of the Year: Majick RavenHawk, founder and CEO of Engage Life and RiverHawk International, which regularly provide assistance to start-up minority businesses;

Veteran Small Business Champion of the Year: Matt Stiner, assistant to the Mayor of the City of Tulsa, who has worked to make Tulsa more veteran-friendly and giving veterans a voice in city government; and

Women in Business Champion: Shannon Wilburn, president and CEO of Just Between Friends Franchise Systems Inc., a consignment sale franchisor with more than 100 franchisees in 22 states.

D.C. Roberts, senior director of sales for Williams & Williams Worldwide Real Estate Auction, emceed the program, and Brad Frank, president of Tulsa Tube Bending, served as keynote speaker.

Frank spoke about corporate culture and how his company changed its culture to benefit its sales and service.

The 17 Small Business Awards finalists were Marilyn Boyce, Ambitious Web Services; Jim Brock, Brock & Associates, A Private Wealth Advisory Practice of Ameriprise Financial; Cheryl Cohenour, Cherokee CRC LLC; Kelsy Eakin, Keltech; Bill Fournet, The Persimmon Group; Sean Kouplen, Regent Bank; Belkis Lane, Lancorp Engineering; Jeff Magee, Performance Magazine; Shelby Navarro, One Architecture; Charlie Pilkington, NorthStar Technologies; Sam Rader, Coldwell Banker Select; Majick RavenHawk, Engage Life; Chuck Rutterford, Anti-Splash International LLC; Clay Slaton, EngATech; Matt Stiner, Veteran Court Project, City of Tulsa; Melinda Stinnett, Stinnett & Associates LLC; and Shannon Wilburn, Just Between Friends Franchise Systems Inc.

[Print This Story](#) [Email To A Friend](#)
to do list

- [Submit a News Tip](#)
- [Report Transactions](#)
- [Submit an Event](#)
- [Advertise Online](#)
- [Top Real Estate Agents](#)
- [Entrepreneurs Guide](#)
- [New Business Information](#)

regional weatherTulsa
66°FOklahoma City
64°FStillwater
69°F