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News

Honoree serves on local boards

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The Alegent Health Foundation will honor four individuals from southwest Iowa for their professional and personal contributions to the community during the 2010 Heritage Dinner Saturday, March 20, at Harrah's Council Bluffs Casino & Hotel, 1 Harrah's Blvd.

Frank W. Pechacek Jr. will be honored in the business category.

Growing up in Cedar Falls, he knew he wanted to be a lawyer.

Watching his father in his dairy business, he knew that, to have a successful business, you also needed an accountant on your left and a lawyer on your right. He wanted to be the lawyer.

Pechacek was born in Winona, Minn., to Frank and Gladys Pechacek. When he was young, the family moved to Cedar Falls, where his father bought a dairy business and his sister went to study at the University of Iowa.

It was in Cedar Falls that he met his wife, Beth, when she asked him to the Sadie Hawkins dance at school. They were married in 1966 and have three grown children: Jill, Holly and Chad. The couple has nine grandchildren.



Pechacek

Pechacek is very involved in the Council Bluffs community and has been since he moved here in 1969. He serves on the boards of the American Red Cross, Loess Hills Chapter; Southwest Iowa Educational Foundation Inc.; Bluffs Arts Foundation; Pottawattamie County Community Foundation; and many more.

The Heritage Award was created to celebrate and pay homage to those who have enriched the community and established a legacy on which future Heritage Award honorees can build. Each year, a committee of community leaders and Alegent Health Mercy Hospital staff coordinate the event. Proceeds from the event support nursing and general scholarships for Mercy Hospital employees.

The gala evening begins with a cocktail reception at 6 p.m., followed by a gourmet meal and the recognition program. For more information regarding the 2010 Heritage Dinner or for tickets to the event, contact Christine Gochenour at christine.gochenour@alegent.org or (712) 328-5141 by Monday.