



www.decaturchamber.com

111 E. Main Street, Suite 110 - Decatur, IL 62523 - (217) 422-2200

NEWS CONFERENCE

Contact: Lori Sturgill, 422-2200

CHAMBER ANNOUNCES THE FIRST OUTSTANDING MICRO BUSINESS OF THE YEAR RECIPIENT

The Greater Decatur Chamber of Commerce held a news conference on May 1 at New Vision Hair Care Center to announce New Vision Hair Care Center as the first Outstanding Micro Business of the Year.

New Vision Hair Care Center, an African-American beauty salon, was founded in 1989 and currently has 5 employees. Mary Gladney, owner of New Vision Hair Care Center, is a visionary who is involved in the community including affiliations with SCORE, Decatur Public Library Board of Trustees, Workforce Investment Board and Decatur Leadership Institute. In addition to a quality hair care service center Gladney describes her salon as a "clearing house for constructive information." She states "We attempt to empower those clients and employees who feel disenfranchised. We offer voter registration and notary services."

"We are so pleased that our Small Business Council selected New Vision Hair Care Center as the Outstanding Micro Business of the Year," said Randy Prince, President of The Chamber of Commerce for Decatur & Macon County. "Mary Gladney is an inspiration to micro business owners and has proven her commitment to both the community and sound business practices over a period of many years."

The Outstanding Micro Business of the Year Award was presented in conjunction with the Chamber Annual Meeting on May 11, 2006 at the Decatur Club. This is the first year that the Outstanding Micro Business of the Year Award has been presented. The award was added to allow recognition to businesses with fewer than 10 employees.

Media is invited to attend. For more information, please contact Lori Sturgill at the Chamber office at 422-2200.

###