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Outpost Natural Foods GM honored by Community Shares

Pam Mehnert accepts A. David Schwartz Business Humanitarian Award

[Milwaukee, WI] Community Shares of Greater Milwaukee held its 22nd annual Commitment to Justice Awards on Thursday, September 15, 2011. The "Celebrate Champions of Change" banquet honored five Milwaukee business pioneers for their leadership in social justice, animal welfare and the environment. Outpost Natural Foods Co-op General Manager Pam Mehnert was among the group of honored recipients.

Mehnert received the A. David Schwartz Business Humanitarian Award, from Community Shares of Milwaukee, and was recognized for her efforts on improving social justice and the environment through her position as general manager at Outpost.

"It was an honor to receive an award in the memory of David Schwartz, an entrepreneur who exemplified values and concern for his community. As Schwartz Bookshops did in its time and as Outpost, and other successful local businesses, does today, business leaders need to live by one of the twelve natural laws of business - doing things others know they should do, but generally don't."

Outpost Natural Foods mission is to create a healthy, diverse and sustainability community and the award presented to Mehnert gave recognition for her efforts in leading the cooperative to fulfill that mission.

Other awards and their recipients that evening were given to

Lifelong Commitment to Justice Award

Jim Marks, Director, Special Projects, Greater Milwaukee Foundation

President's Award

Vel Phillips, First woman and first African American elected secretary of state in Wisconsin

President's Award

Ken Leinbach, Executive Director, Urban Ecology Center

Future of Change Award

Patrick Schrank, Youth Service Supervisor, Hope House of Milwaukee

The event took place at the Woodlands Ballroom at the Potawatomi Bingo Casino.

About Ms. Mehnert and Outpost Natural Foods

Pam Mehnert is general manager of Outpost Natural Foods Cooperative in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, is a founding member and board president of the National Cooperative Grocers Association as well as a founding member and board president of Our Milwaukee, a local business alliance. Pam's career at Outpost spans nearly 31 years, serving as general manager since 1987. Started in 1970, Outpost Natural Foods Cooperative operates three successful locations in the metro Milwaukee area as well as providing fresh baked goods and deli salads to some local area hospitals cafeterias. Co-owned by nearly 16,000 individuals from Southeastern Wisconsin, it employs over 300 people, as well as publishes a food and dining magazine (GRAZE). Outpost is the fourth largest cooperatively owned natural foods grocer in the country by sales volume. www.outpost.coop

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