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KC mayor urges development beyond downtown

By KEVIN COLLISON
The Kansas City Star

Kansas City Mayor Mark Funkhouser handed out development awards at a luncheon Tuesday and urged that investments be spread to other areas of the city in addition to downtown.

"It's been said I'm anti-development," the mayor told attendees at the Cornerstone Awards event. "I am not. I do hope we are wise in our choices.

"I do hope now that downtown is on a comeback we can devote more development dollars back to our neighborhoods."

The ceremony, sponsored by the **Kansas City Economic Development Corp.** at the new Bartle Hall ballroom, honored eight projects.

•**City Homes at River Market East**, 27 detached homes at Fifth and Oak streets, received the residential award.

•The headquarters of **Andrews McMeel Universal** in the renovated, historic Boley Building at 12th and Walnut streets received the redevelopment award.

•The **Staley High School** and **North Kansas City School District Activities Complex** at 2800 N.E. Shoal Creek Parkway received the public projects award.

•**Westside Housing Organization** received the nonprofit award for its 75-unit Westside Apartments project. Several buildings at 1748 Washington St., 2900 Summit St., 500 W. 20th St. and 2003 Jefferson St. have been renovated.

•**Indigo Wild**, which recently expanded to new office and manufacturing space in the former American Ice building at 3125 Wyandotte St., received the small business award.

•**Dean Machinery**, which recently moved into a new, 180,000-square-foot facility at on the southwest corner of 87th Street and Interstate 435, received the business expansion award.

•Two projects in the **Kansas City Power & Light District** received the entertainment award: the multi-block entertainment district itself developed by **Cordish Co.**, and **Midland by AMC**, a Cordish and AMC Entertainment venture.

The EDC honored Mike Burke, an attorney at **King Hershey** law firm, with its **James C. Denny** Spirit Award. Denny was known for his civic pride and support for Kansas City. He died in 2000.

To reach Kevin Collison, development reporter, call 816-234-4289 or send e-mail to kcollison@kcstar.com.

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The North Kansas City School District will open Staley High School in August with about 800 students. The district's fourth high school is expected to relieve overcrowding. ORG XMIT: 8H13H7PC



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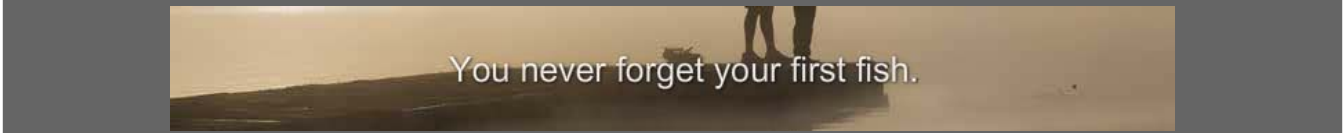
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