

Thursday Eau Leader-Telegram 02-05-09

Menomonie man given citizen award

By Pamela Powers

Menomonie News Bureau

MENOMONIE - **Robert Bossany** has helped build the Dunn County economic base as the former president of the Dunn County Economic Development Corp.

Bossany, on Wednesday was named the **2008 Distinguished Citizen at the Greater Menomonie Area Chamber of Commerce's annual banquet.**

After receiving the award Bossany said everyone working together helped build Dunn County.

"I cannot begin to tell you how humbled I am to receive this," he said.

Tom Miller, the 2007 Distinguished Citizen, announced the award to Bossany.

"If you were to measure the impact of a person on their ability to strengthen their community, this individual can be considered an exceptional role model for many of us," Miller said. "He brings a sense of pride, shared experience, years of commitment and continual devotion to the community."

Over the years Bossany met with businesses, helping them to draft business plans and formulate their dreams.

"Our cities, villages and even the region would not be the same without (his) work," Miller said.

Bossany, of Menomonie, left the economic development position last summer to become **assistant vice president of rural finance for AgStar Financial Services.**

He has worked as the vice president of operations for Hudson Industries and as manager of Swiss Miss Division of Beatrice Foods.

Other awards presented Wednesday included:

Business of the Year was awarded to Menomonie Market Food Cooperative. The co-op employs 22 people and has more than 1,100 members.

Small Business of the Year went to Bookends, a downtown independent bookstore owned by Harriet Christy.

Farm Family of the Year was awarded to the Marshall and Josephine Quilling family. Marshall Quilling started the original farm, known as Elk Ridge Farms, in 1930. Quilling Farms now works 1,600 acres.

