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Shawnee High School Receives \$30,000 for Scholarships

Louisville, Ky. (July 21, 2006) – Shawnee High School’s Aviation and Travel and Tourism Magnet Program received a big boost today, at a luncheon honoring the five living former Louisville Regional Airport Authority board chairs.

Sponsors of the luncheon collectively have donated \$30,250 as of today to create the “Sam R. Rechter Scholarship Fund” that will go to Shawnee’s Aviation and Travel/Tourism magnet programs. The scholarship is named for the long-time Airport Authority board member Sam R. Rechter, who was the board’s vice chair when the aviation and travel/tourism magnet programs began. Shawnee’s aviation program is one of the few public high schools in the country to offer free FAA-certified ground school and flight training, and free FAA-certified aircraft-mechanic training at the high school level.

Sam Rechter also chaired the Louisville Airport Improvement Program (LAIP), which started in 1988, and included the addition of two parallel runways, positioning the airport to improve air service and ultimately attract the UPS air hub.

Today’s luncheon honored the five living former Airport Authority board chairs who served between 1970 and 2003, including James “Buddy” Thompson, Bert Klein, Frank Hower, Sam Rechter and J. Michael Brown.

“The combination of leadership shown through the last several decades has made our airport the economic engine that drives this community and this state,” said Mayor Jerry Abramson. “The tough choices and sacrifices made two decades ago continue to pay off for this community and the Commonwealth in continued economic development and job growth.”

“It is an honor and a challenge to follow chairmen of such leadership and vision as we are honoring today,” noted J.D. Nichols, the Chairman of the Board of the Louisville Regional Airport Authority since January 2004.

Sponsors of the lunch and scholarship fund include: Stites and Harbison; The Corradino Group; HNTB; UPS; Guthrie Mayes and Associates; NewWest!; NTS Corporation; CDM; Atlantic Aviation; Integra Realty Resources; The Paradies Shops; The Grizzle Company.

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