



NEWS RELEASE

December 11, 2007

For more information contact:
Tim Hall
634-4605

Rev. Thurman Echols is recipient of 2007 Jack Dalton Community Service Award

The Rev. Thurman O. Echols is the recipient of the 2007 Jack Dalton Community Service Award.

The Henry County Board of Supervisors announced the choice at its meeting Tuesday. Echols was chosen by the Board from a roster of nominees submitted by Henry County residents. The award is based on community service and dedication to Henry County and its residents.

Echols is the pastor at Moral Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Axton, where he celebrated his 30th anniversary in 2006, and his list of volunteer contributions to his community is extensive.

Echols was a founding member and is the current Chairman of the Board of the Axton Life Saving Crew, and he is the President of the Board of Directors of the Henry-Martinsville United Way. Earlier today Rev. Echols and the members of Moral Hill sponsored the United Way's Celebration Luncheon to commemorate the completion of this year's fundraising campaign.

Rev. Echols is in his ninth term as Chairman of the Board of Pittsylvania County Community Action, and he also serves on the boards of Citizens Against Family Violence, Piedmont Arts Association, and the Salvation Army.

Rev. Echols was nominated for the award by the Axton Life Saving Crew Board of Directors. As part of its nomination, the Board of Directors wrote: "Rev. Echols gives guidance, inspiration, and moral and tangible support, always listening to others in the process. He doesn't just lend his name. The Axton Life Saving Crew is among many organizations to which he has

given hours upon hours of time, yet always making you feel like he has all the time in the world to give.”

Rev. Echols is the seventh recipient of the award. Dr. Calvin Rains won the inaugural presentation in 2001, followed by Bill Adkins in 2002, Clay Campbell in 2003, Mary McGee in 2004, Charlie Bradshaw in 2005, and Bob Petty in 2006.

The award is named for the late Jack Dalton, who served on the Board of Supervisors for more than 24 years. Dalton, who represented the Collinsville District on the Board, was serving as the Board’s chairman at his death on May 24, 2000.

###