



NEWS RELEASE

WYOMING DISTRICT OFFICE

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Summer Henderson & Anthony Marcil are Named Home-Based Business Champion of the Year 2010

Casper – The U.S. Small Business Administration has named Summer Henderson and Anthony Marcil of Casper, as Home-Based Business Champion of the Year 2010. This award will be presented to them on May 10, 2010, at the Casper Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner. Steven Despain, District Director of the Wyoming Small Business Administration, will be presenting Ms. Henderson and Mr. Marcil with this award.

This award is presented to an individual/organization that has engaged in entrepreneurial training, policy development efforts, or financial or business planning specifically tailored for home-based businesses; has demonstrated interest in home-based business and has measurable accomplishments in advancing home-based businesses, such as adoption of public policy or expansion of a program.

Waves Web Design is a small business partnership located in Casper, Wyoming and has been in business since January of 2003. Prior to starting a business Summer attended the Western Washington University for three years and then transferred to Queensland, Australia to complete her double degrees in zoology and environmental science. Meanwhile, Anthony was attending college at North Adams State University in Berkshire County, Massachusetts. It was there the two met in Berkshire County working at the same job and fell in love. Anthony was building websites for various clients but needed to find a better economic climate with more opportunity available. They ended up in Lander, Wyoming, where Summer grew up, and started offering the hotels to build their web design in exchange for a place to stay. This worked for awhile, then they realized there were not enough businesses in the area to continue to support them so they moved to Casper, Wyoming where they began advertising, cold calling and walked up and down the streets handing out fliers for their business. Slowly they built up their clientele through outstanding customer service and great pricing.

Today Summer and Anthony run a successful business with hundreds of clients. They are community minded and donate money and time to local charities. They participate in the yearly Chamber of Commerce Business Challenge where they donated a \$5,000 website to a new business starting-up. They offer 30% to 50% discounts to non-profits in Wyoming who want to get a website and talk to local high school and college students about entrepreneurship and internet business opportunities. This year they were asked to speak to the Wyoming Press Association about website usability and were featured in "Made in Wyoming" on Channel 13 News in a segment about unique business stories. More recently they had a featured article written about them in the Casper Journal, Arts section. They have attended WNET Roundtables and a Gro-Biz seminar through the local SBA. They were featured as one of SBA's small business success stories and presented a seminar through the SBA for local businesses who want to learn how to improve their websites. Summer said, "We continue to strive to provide our community with quality websites at reasonable prices.

We take pride in our work and in our overall success as a small business and feel that we were lucky enough to achieve the American Dream.”

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For more information about SBA's programs for small businesses, call 307-261-6500 or TDY 307-261-6527 or visit the SBA's extensive Web site at www.sba.gov/wy.

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