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## LETTER FROM THE PUBLISHERS

When we celebrated our 10th Anniversary of the Lawrence Business Magazine last fall, we thought about what it means to be part of the community for ten years. But what about those that have been part of our community for 20, 30, 50, or more? We are very proud and impressed by the number of highly successful businesses that have been around for multiple decades and generations. We are only able to showcase a few of those in this issue, but we try to give you something to think about and celebrate as you work with these and others in our community. Businesses that have made a positive impact on our community for many, many decades and continue to be leaders today and hopefully in our future.

When we spoke to these business owners regarding long-term success. a question we wanted to hear from them on was, "How do you maintain a successful business through changing times, evolving expectations. and never-ending competition?" One answer was a consistent clue for their success "Our Reputation." The reputation for consistently providing (through the decades and generations) a quality product or service and putting their clients/customers first - customer service is paramount to their mission.

Another essential element to their ongoing success is giving back to the community. A fun fact: more than half of the companies mentioned in this issue have been long-standing members of The Lawrence Chamber of Commerce. Many are actively involved in supporting events that help raise money for the nonprofit agencies that assist those in our community in need. These businesses bring up the community; let's celebrate their success, their big hearts in helping others, and all the other intangibles they give back to our community.

Unfortunately, as we stated above, we could not cover all businesses that thrived and survived in Lawrence and Douglas County for many decades. Still, we tried to highlight various sectors and showcase the history of long-time businesses within our community, enriching our

Remember, when we Shop Local - Shop Baldwin, Eudora, Lecompton, and Lawrence (and use Local Services). We are not just supporting those businesses but giving back to our community and building a future

PROTECT AND PRESERVE OUR LOCAL BUSINESSES.

Sincerely.

Ann Frame Hertzog

Editor-in-Chief/Publisher

Chief Photographer/Publisher

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