



October 20, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Contact: Janelle Schmidt, Communications and Events Director
(703) 739-3802**

**Alexandria Chamber of Commerce Honors Charles Collum as
2009 Business Leader of the Year and Announces Alexandria
Business Award Winners in 6 Categories**

ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA – Charles K. Collum, Jr., Chairman of the Board of Burke & Herbert Bank & Trust Company was honored as the 2009 Business Leader of the Year by the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce at their annual Business Awards Dinner on Friday, October 16, at 6:00 p.m. at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, in Old Town Alexandria.

The event was truly a family affair for Charlie as his son Charles K. Collum the III lead the invocation and his younger son, Joe Collum honored his father from the podium. Rick Dorman of the Catalyst Group of Alexandria and Sean McLaughlin of McLaughlin Ryder Investments, LLC, spoke of Charlie's many accomplishments in the world of finance and his commitment to the community. W. Scott McSween, President & Chief Operating Officer of Burke & Herbert Bank stated, "We're enormously proud of Charlie here at Burke & Herbert Bank, and we're grateful for his leadership in making our bank a nationally-recognized community banking success story." Charlie accepted his award to the sound of thunderous applause. "I thank the Alexandria Chamber for the honor of being selected as Business Leader of the year. Friday night's event was something I will never forget. Having the room filled with both new and longtime friends was truly humbling. I also appreciate Burke and Herbert for their sponsorship and support for me, not only for this honor, but for the last 38 years." Charlie Collum.



Photo courtesy of Steven Halperson, Tisara Photography

The Chamber is proud to announce the winners of the 2009 Business Awards:

- Small Business of the Year: United States Homeland Investigations, Inc.
- Sustainable Business of the Year: Maginniss + Del Ninno Architects
- Hospitality Business of the Year: Kimpton Hotels of Alexandria
- New Business of the Year: The Full Cup
- Retail Business of the Year: Rick's Wine and Gourmet
- Professional Service Business of the Year: Nova Smiles

“The Alexandria Chamber of Commerce is pleased to acknowledge the accomplishments of our local businesses. The winners as well as all the nominees truly set the bar for excellence in their respective award categories,” said Tina Leone, President/CEO of the Chamber. The Community of Alexandria should be very proud of all of this year’s nominees and winners.



Photo courtesy of Steven Halperson, Tisara Photography

Pictured Above from left to right: Row One: Tina Leone, President and CEO of the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce, Dr. Lawrence D. Singer of Nova Smiles, Charles K. Collum the III, Business Leader of the Year and Chairman of the Board of Burke & Herbert Bank & Trust Company, Mary Maginniss and Skip Maginniss of Maginniss + Del Ninno Architects
Row Two: Caroline Ross of Rick's Wine and Gourmet, Ashley McNeff of United States Homeland Investigations, Inc, Cathy Puskar, Chair of the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, Nick Gregory of Kimpton Hotels and Frances Crespo of the Full Cup



Pictured above from left to right: 2009 Small Business of the Year recipients from United States Homeland Investigations, Inc. - Stephanie Cassidy, Director of Business Development; Ashley McNeff, CEO and Shena Nutter, Director of Client Relations.

“United States Homeland Investigations, Inc. TM (USHII) is truly honored to be chosen as Alexandria’s 2009 Small Business of the Year. The support that the Chamber provides businesses within the community is invaluable and we feel privileged to be recognized by an organization that contributes to the local community and businesses in such a big way. During these tough economic times, it is important for local businesses to band together and support each other. Buy Alexandria, buy local and look to your fellow businesses for support within your business. To expand on that issue, when your business hires an employee, be sure to screen them through USHII – helping you hire the right person, the first time!”

Ashley McNeff, Chief Executive Officer, United States Homeland Investigations, Inc. TM (USHII)

#

The Alexandria Chamber of Commerce is one of the is one of the oldest chambers in the country, having been founded in 1906, before the United States Chamber of Commerce.

#