

The 2008 Honorees

Dr. James Knight & Donna Knight *Couple of the Year*



Donna and Dr. James W. Knight have been married for 37 years. They moved to St. Louis in 1970 when Dr. Knight entered St. Louis University Medical School. After he completed his residency and internship, the Knights decided to remain in St. Louis.

Dr. Knight specializes in limb salvage and revascularization. He is Chair of the Board for Forest Park Hospital and serves as the Medical Director of Hyperbaric and Wound Care at Forest Park Hospital. He is a charter member of the Missouri Foundation, Vice Chair of Heat Up/Cool Down St. Louis, member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, member of Guardsman and the Boule.

Donna served six years as treasurer for the Missouri State Democratic Party. She is Vice-Chair of the Board for the Metropolitan Zoological Museum and Parks District, Chair of the Women's Fundraising Auxiliary for Heat Up/Cool Down St. Louis, member of Smart Set and The Moles.

The Knights built the Natural Bridge Professional Center located in Normandy and later formed the North County Surgical Services, providing high quality medical and surgical needs to the St. Louis community. They are members of the Charmaine Chapman Society of the United Way and Greater Mt. Carmel Baptist Church.

The Knights believe in team effort and remaining close as a family. They are the proud parents of Pamela Knight, a financial advisor at Merrill Lynch, and Paula Knight, St. Louis Public Schools Curriculum Director.

Samuel Hutchinson & Laurna Godwin *Couple of the Year*

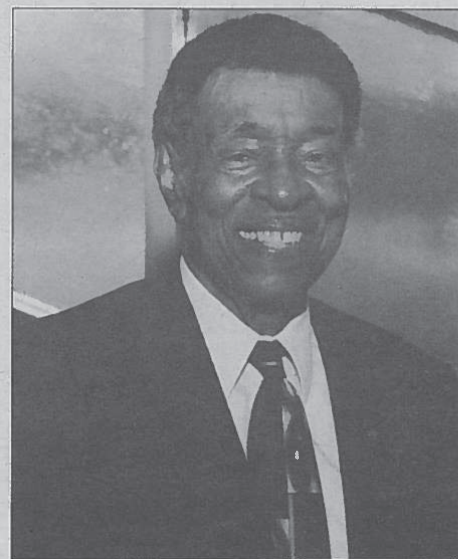


Sam Hutchinson and Laurna Godwin are both entrepreneurs celebrating milestone anniversaries this year. Sam's company, Interface Construction Corporation, is celebrating its 30th anniversary, while Laurna's company, Vector Communications, turns ten-years-old on June 1st.

Sam is the Founder, President and sole owner of Interface, a general contracting and construction management firm. Prior to starting Interface, Sam was an engineer at Shell Oil Company in Wood River, Illinois. In 1978, he decided to strike out on his own. Sam started Interface as a concrete construction company with three employees in Wood River. For ten years, Interface performed concrete flatwork for highway contractors in Illinois' Metro East area. Then in 1988, Sam transitioned the company from being a subcontractor to a general contractor and construction manager in military family housing maintenance at Scott Air Force Base and in heavy construction. During that time, St. Louis University's School of Entrepreneurial Studies selected Interface as one of the top 25 small businesses in the St. Louis area. With his company's focus now on vertical construction, Sam decided to move Interface to St. Louis in 1998. Since then, his company has won numerous awards including: Contractor of the Year from the St. Louis Minority Business Council; two Keystone Awards from the Associated General Contractors of America and numerous diversity awards from the St. Louis Council of Construction Consumers. Some of Interface's clients include: Washington University School of Medicine; SSM Healthcare; AmerenUE; Monsanto; St. Louis Zoo; Missouri Botanical Garden; St. Louis University; and the St. Louis Public School System.

Laurna Godwin, a three-time Emmy award winning broadcast journalist, is a partner and co-founder of Vector Communications Corporation, an award winning public engagement and communications consulting firm. Vector builds communities, organizations and individuals through public involvement, strategic planning, event planning, media relations, and video production. Some of Vector's current and past projects include: the New I-64; Route 367; Washington Avenue Streetscape; Great Rivers Greenway District; and several Metro Link planning studies. In 2007, the St. Louis Minority Business Council named Vector "MBE of the Year."

Rev. Dr. John N. Doggett *Distinguished Public Servant Award*



The St. Louis Argus presents the 2008 Distinguished Public Servant Award to Reverend Doctor John N. Doggett for outstanding career achievements and consistent public service to the St. Louis community.

- * Former pastor of Union Memorial Methodist Church
- * Former President of the St. Louis City NAACP
- * Recipient of the Drum Major Award from the National Conference of Christians and Jews
- * Life Member of the Urban League
- * National Chaplain emeritus of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity
- * Member of St. Louis University President's Council
- * Treasure, Board of Directors, Missouri Historical Society

Married to Mrs. Juanita Doggett, former principal of Sherman School.