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Schaefer Joins FEDA Board

FAIRFIELD, (Iowa) – Lori Schaefer, Director of Business Development at Agri-Industrial Plastics Company, has been appointed to the position of Director on the Board of Directors of the Fairfield Economic Development Association, Inc. (FEDA). She assumes the directorship of the retiring Richard K. (Dick) Smith.

Schaefer, born in Hartford, Connecticut but raised in Fairfield, assumes her position on the economic development board in her third year with Agri-Industrial Plastics, which she joined in 2005 following 15 years spent in the Chicago area. Much of that time was spent with Comdisco, a *Fortune* 500 computer, telecom and electronics equipment company. At Agri, she is charged with developing marketing, sales and IT integration and other strategy to sustain and create growth.

“Lori topped our list,” said Pat Doyle, FEDA President. “Her profound knowledge and understanding of not only major industry, but the Fairfield business community itself makes her an ideal candidate for the challenging task of assuming Dick’s seat during a critical time in Fairfield’s history.

He added, “Dick brought to FEDA a dedication to the betterment of this community which will be difficult to match- he is the epitome of leadership through action. The FEDA Board cannot thank him enough for all his work with us and for Fairfield.”

Schaefer is a member of the Board of Directors of Iowa State Bank & Trust of Fairfield, is Vice-Chair of the Association of Business & Industry Manufacturing Council, is a Chairperson with the Southeast Iowa Manufacturers Consortium, is a member of the Fairfield Manufacturers

Association and is a member of the Fairfield Rotary Club. She has two daughters, Cami, 7, and Abby, 5.

“I am honored to be joining an organization whose mission it is to improve the quality of life of the citizens of Fairfield through targeted economic development initiatives,” said Schaefer. “This is an exciting time for Fairfield. We have strong momentum going in regards to business development for mature companies, companies in the entrepreneurial phase, and we have the right profile to attract new businesses to Fairfield.”

Smith, President at Agri-Industrial Plastics Company, was appointed to the FEDA Board in August 1999 to replace the retiring Rex Crockett, then with Dexter Company. He was subsequently elected and re-elected to the board three times. He founded Agri-Industrial Plastics, now one of Fairfield’s largest employers, in 1978.

FEDA, established in 1978, works closely with local community development organizations, financial institutions and businesses, as well as agencies and elected officials in local, county, state and federal government to help facilitate economic growth in Fairfield by providing assistance in locating financing for business and community development projects, grant administration and land development. The non-profit organization is governed by a seven-member Board of Directors.