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**Watters Garden
Center**

Press Release

Chino Valley Chamber Honors local Garden Center

Individuals in attached photo: Owners Ken and Lisa Lain on the right with general manager Brad

DeKruyter holding the award and lead grower Dave Ahrens left.

January 17, 2007: Watters Garden Center has been voted business of the month in Chino Valley. Each month the Chino Valley chamber recognizes one business for their involvement in the community, volunteerism and business activity that promotes the best image for a Chino Valley business. Watters Garden Center grows many of their flowers, vegetables, perennials and shrubs in Chino Valley and sells them through their retail garden center located in Prescott at 1815 Iron Springs Road. Owner Ken Lain, "It's always nice to have fellow business owners vote you as one of their best in any community. I love getting involved with Chino Valley and all the excitement that is going on in Chino."

Watters Garden Center opened its first retail garden center in the area in 1962. Ken and Lisa Lain become the second generation owners 5 years ago when Lisa's father, Harold Watters, retired from the business. Lisa Lain, "I grew up surrounded by the garden center. I started out before the age of 10 watering plants and picking weeds. My father was a man of high integrity and taught us how to work hard. Ken and I still run the garden center under these same principles only now the children watering and picking weeds are my own."

More than changes in ownership, the garden center has gone through major renovation over the last 2 years. Ken Lain, "Iron Springs will be complete in several weeks and we will be expanding. Our greenhouse space will double, additional parking, better signage and new displays are all going to make this one of our best years ever. I'm extremely blessed to have such a great crew of employees that work with us. But we have had to become smarter business owners and work really hard through this road construction."

"We are heavily involved in all three local chamber of commerce in the Tri-City area and believe deeply in supporting the economic vitality of the region. I love spending my entertainment dollars in Prescott Valley to watch a Sundog game or a movie. Our farming operations buy as much as possible from the town of Chino Valley, and of course we have the retail garden center in Prescott." says Ken. "I never dreamed we would have this many options to keep our dollars local when I was growing up here. We just figured Phoenix was the only place to shop back then. "

This spring is the 45th year Watters Garden Center has been opened for business. Ken, "It's hard to believe the garden center has been opened 45 years. Lisa and I have been involved with the family business for decades and I can truly say I still love coming to work every day."