

NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Mackenthun's Fine Foods is Honored for 100 Years

St. Paul, MN – February 8, 2017 – Mackenthun's Fine Foods in Waconia was honored by the Minnesota House of Representatives during the House floor session on Monday, February 6. Representative Jim Nash (Waconia) presented the Mackenthun family with a House Resolution to commemorate 100 years in the grocery business. Jaime Mackenthun and Jessa Mackenthun Theis, fifth generation co-owners, were present for the reading and acceptance of the resolution from Representative Nash.

Representative Nash shared the story of Mackenthun's Fine Foods noting it is the oldest, longest-running grocery organization in the state of Minnesota, dating back to the 1900's when August Mackenthun opened his meat market in Plato. August's son Arthur left Plato in 1917 headed to Waconia to open what we know today as Mackenthun's Fine Foods. The family tradition continued with Arthur's son, Marvin. He worked in the family store until he went to serve his country in WWII. Marvin would return to Waconia and open a full-line grocery store.

Marvin's son, Kim, started working in the family store as soon as he was old enough to sort pop bottles and bag potatoes. The history continues as Kim's son, Jaime, and daughter, Jessa, are now co-owners in the business and have children of their own who are also starting to work at the store. The Mackenthun's have recently expanded the business with the purchase of two stores in the Lonsdale and Montgomery communities.

The Mackenthun's are known for their deep commitment to the Waconia community and the food industry as a whole. They have been acknowledged with multiple industry awards from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, the National Grocers Association, the Minnesota Grocers Association, and *Progressive Grocer*, just to name a few.

Kim, Jaime, and Jessa are all long supporters of the Minnesota Grocers Association. They have each served or are serving in leadership capacities of the organization. Kim served two terms as MGA Chairman and was presented with the MGA Outstanding Grocer Award in 2001. Most recently, he was inducted into the MGA's Hall of Fame for his contributions to the food industry of Minnesota.

We congratulate Mackenthun's Fine Foods for a century of providing outstanding careers, serving their customers, and for being an outstanding community partner. We also thank Representative Nash for his acknowledgement of this fine organization.

The Minnesota Grocers Association is a state trade association representing the food industry since 1897. We have over 200 retail members with nearly 1,100 stores statewide, as well as approximately 100 distributors and manufacturers. Our member companies employ over 125,000 union and non-union Minnesotans. We actively advance the common interest of all those engaged in any aspect of the retail food industry as a leader and advocate in government affairs.

Pictured: Representative Jim Nash, Jessa Mackenthun Theis, Jaime Mackenthun, and Speaker of the House Kurt Daudt.

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