

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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From: Branch-Hillsdale-St. Joseph Community Health Agency

Board of Health Issues Certificates of Excellence

The Branch-Hillsdale-St. Joseph Community Health Agency's Board of Health released its list of **"Certificates of Excellence"** in foodservice for the year 2009. Restaurants that have no critical violations on their last two routine inspections and are in good standing are eligible to receive a certificate from the department. Inspections are normally performed twice in a year. The Environmental Health Division inspects all food service establishments in the tri-county area to assure proper food handling and sanitation for food served to the public. Additionally, restaurant managers are offered food service training by the department each year to train food service workers in proper food handling and preparation.

The Branch-Hillsdale St. Joseph Community Health Environmental Health Division has been accredited with Commendation by the Michigan Department of Agriculture in the delivery of this food inspection program, assuring consistent and high quality inspections for all restaurants. A copy of restaurants recognized for the year 2009 and prior years 2008, 2007, 2006, 2005 and 2004 can be found on the Community Health Agency Website at www.bhsj.org

Summer Safety! - In addition to inspections of permanent fixed food establishments, Environmental Health Food Inspection personnel also inspects summer food service vendors at local festivals and events to assure proper food handling and safety for summer festivals and other public events held outside the traditional restaurant setting.

To find out more about the food inspection program, or other Environmental Health Programs, visit our web site and select Environmental Health

www.bhsj.org