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****Media Alert * Media Alert * Media Alert****

KU DINING SERVICES, DEPT. OF STUDENT HOUSING CELEBRATE 90TH BIRTHDAY OF INAUGURAL DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR LENOIR “MRS. E” EKDAHL

Popular KU Dining matriarch to be honored for years of service, contributions to University

WHAT

KU Dining Services and the Department of Student Housing will celebrate the 90th birthday of Lenoir Ekdahl – the first director of KU’s dining operation – with a special birthday party at the dining center named in her honor, Ekdahl Dining Commons (affectionately known as “Mrs. E’s”). Mrs. E began her tenure with KU Dining as a unit manager at Gertrude S. Pearson (GSP) Dining Hall in 1955, which in January of that year had just opened. Under then Housing Director J.J. Wilson, Ekdahl helped oversee the opening of KU’s residence halls – Templin, Lewis, Hashinger, Ellsworth, McCollum and Oliver – and their associated dining operations.

WHEN

Friday, March 28, 2008

12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.: Mrs. Ekdahl has lunch and greets students (Ekdahl Dining Commons)

2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.: Birthday reception

2:45 p.m.: Prepared remarks by current KU Dining Services Director (and former employee of Mrs. Ekdahl) Nona Golledge.

WHERE

Ekdahl Dining Commons (“Mrs. E’s”), 1530 Engel Road, adjacent to Lewis Hall, in the Banquet Room

WHO

Mrs. Lenoir Ekdahl, staffs of both KU Dining Services and Department of Student Housing, family and friends

KEY MEDIA OPPORTUNITIES

Numerous photo opportunities of Mrs. Ekdahl at her birthday celebration.

Numerous video opportunities of current KU Dining Director Nona Golledge delivering prepared statements regarding Mrs. Ekdahl’s years of service to the University.