

NAFB • P.O. Box 500 • Platte City, MO 64079 • 816.431.4032 • www.nafb.com

Contact: Jennifer Saylor

816.431.4032 jennifer@nafb.com

## **Taylor Brown Named to National Farm Broadcasters Hall of Fame**

Last fall, Taylor Brown marked his 30<sup>th</sup> year on the air as an agricultural broadcaster, and his 25<sup>th</sup> year as the owner of the Northern Broadcasting System, based in Billings, MT. Throughout those years, Brown has become one of the most prominent figures in the Farm Broadcasting industry, as a respected leader of the National Association of Farm Broadcasting (NAFB).

This coming November 11<sup>th</sup> in Kansas City, fellow members fo the NAFB will honor Taylor Brown and Gene Millard with induction into the <u>NAFB Hall of Fame</u>. In the 66-year history of the NAFB, only 48 individuals have been inducted into their Hall of Fame, and Brown will become the first Montanan ever to receive this honor.

Gene Millard, former Farm Director/General Manager at KFEQ Radio in St. Joseph, Missouri, and head of Millard Family Farms, Inc., has been and continues to be a great farm communicator and ambassador. In 1990 Gene received the NAFB's Dix Harper Meritorious Service Award and served as the NAFB Interim Executive Director in 2004. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of Citizens Bank and Trust and as Chairman of the Board of Golden Triangle Energy.



Gene Millard



**Taylor Brown** 

As National President in 1992, Taylor Brown was involved in the major professional reorganization of NAFB that propelled the organization to national prominence in the agri-marketing industry. The creation of a National Office location, with an Executive Director and paid staff, and one-hundred percent member participation in marketing efforts, transformed the NAFB into a serious force in the ag media industry, and launched 20 years of growth for Farm Broadcasting.

Meanwhile Taylor's own company, the Northern Broadcasting System, which he and his wife Shannon purchased in 1985 has grown to become the recognized powerful voice of agriculture in Montana, Wyoming and the western Dakotas. The original radio and television programs of the Northern Ag Network have expanded to include the Northern News Network, providing sports, state news, and talk programming, and popular web portals <a href="www.NorthernAg.NET">www.NorthernAg.NET</a>, and <a href="www.NorthernBroadcasting.com">www.NorthernBroadcasting.com</a>. A talented staff of over a dozen, now provide information and professional marketing services in multiple information formats, including social media like Facebook.

Since 1990, Taylor Brown has been a member of the Board of Directors of the <u>NAFB Foundation</u>, and served as its President since 1997. During that time frame, this non-profit educational foundation has tripled the value of its endowment corpus, and expanded it's support for young people pursuing careers in ag communications. Today the Foundation awards over \$15,000.00 annually in scholarships, travel and internship opportunities, to top students across the nation.



As President of the NAFB Foundation since 1997, Taylor Brown has helped provide hundreds of thousands of dollars of scholarship and internship support to young people in pursuit of careers in Ag Broadcasting. Here, Taylor (shown at left) provides Scholarship Checks to the 2009 recipients, DeAnna Schertz, Mattie Nutley, and Chet Hollingshead.

Taylor and his wife Shannon live in Huntley where they have raised three children, Travis, Courtney and Colter. Their family's LO Cattle Company ranch at Sand Springs just celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> year in business this spring. Brown was elected to the Montana Legislature in 2008, where he serves as a State Senator representing Senate District 22 between Billings and Miles City.