



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Larry Forssberg

Email: wcctb@westmontchamber.com

Westmont Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau
One South Cass Avenue, Suite 101
Westmont, IL 60559
Phone: 630-960-5553 - Fax: 630-960-5554
www.westmontchamber.com

Annual Westmont Community Awards Dinner

Westmont Community Awards Presented at Chamber Event

Westmont, Illinois, April 25, 2016 – The Westmont Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau (WCCTB) hosted the Annual Westmont Community Awards Dinner to recognize area individuals and businesses. The Awards Dinner was held on April 25, 2016 at the Hilton Chicago/Oak Brook Hills Resort and Conference Center. The Westmont Chamber Community Awards Dinner is an annual tradition in Westmont designed to provide a special opportunity to pause and recognize the many wonderful volunteers, activities and businesses that work to make Westmont a great place to live, work and visit.

WCCTB President Al Carson noted that “Over one-hundred and twenty-five Westmont area residents, business owners, and civic leaders attended the Westmont Chamber Community Awards program to demonstrate support for our community. The Westmont Chamber along with the Village of Westmont, Rotary Club of Westmont and Westmont Special Events Corporation are collectively proud to recognize the individuals and businesses that help contribute to the growth and success of Westmont, in a manner that keeps Westmont a great place to live, work and visit.”

During the awards program, the following special community recognitions and awards were presented:

- ✓ The 2015 Dick Busse Business-of-the-Year Award recognizes a Chamber business that has excelled in community service, business promotion, civic responsibility and contributions to the betterment of the Chamber and the Village of Westmont. The nominees for this award were: Neat Kitchen + Bar and Uncle Jon’s Music. The Dick Busse Business-of-the-Year award was presented to Jon Kostal of Uncle Jon’s Music, (33 N Cass Avenue) in recognition of their high level of community interaction and support.

- ✓ The 2015 Roger Westman President's Award recognizes an individual who has performed outstanding service to the Chamber and the Westmont Community. The Roger Westman President's award was presented to Mrs. Debby Piha, College of DuPage, (650 Pasquinelli Drive) by Westmont Chamber President Al Carson.
- ✓ 2015 Westmont Citizen-of-the-Year Award recognizes individuals that reside in Westmont and that have demonstrated exceptional community involvement and leadership. Mayor Gunter noted "we have two wonderful people nominated for the Westmont Citizen of the Year that have made such a positive impact to the success of Westmont." The nominees for this award were: Amy Quattrone and Chris Svitak. The Westmont Citizen-of-the-Year award was presented to Mr. Chris Svitak of Westmont by Westmont Mayor Ron Gunter.
- ✓ The 2015 Educator-of-the-Year Award recognizes a local educator for their outstanding efforts in their field and to the betterment of the Village of Westmont. The Educator-of-the-Year award was presented to Ms. Colleen Walsh, Westmont Junior High School.
- ✓ The 2015 Public Safety Officer-of-the-Year Award recognizes a local emergency medical technician, fire fighter, or law enforcement officer for their outstanding efforts in their field and to the betterment of Westmont. The Public Safety Officer-of-the-Year award was presented to Lieutenant Josh Turen, Westmont Fire Department, for his exceptional level of work within the department on behalf of the entire Village of Westmont.
- ✓ The Rotary Club of Westmont Past-President, Elaine Carmichael, presented Valerie and Kerry O'Connor with the Paul Harris Award in recognition of their exceptional level of community service and volunteer work.
- ✓ Westmont Special Events Corporation (WSEC) President, Bob Reid, presented the "Making Memories Award." The 2015 WSEC "Making Memories Award" recipient is Chris Svitak.
- ✓ The Village of Westmont 2015 Public Service Award was presented by Mayor Ron Gunter and Village Manager Stephen May to James Wright for his outstanding dedication to the Westmont community through his helpfulness and never-ending support of all things Westmont.

- ✓ The 2015 Westmont Community Improvement Award recognizes individual business property owners and businesses that have improved the appearance of their property. Community Improvement Awards for 2015 were presented to:

- Action Fabrics, 214 East Chicago Avenue (Julie Showalter)
- Coco Froyo/Immediate Care of Westmont, 29 North Cass Avenue (Amer Alhussaini)
- Expression Dance Studio, 25 South Cass Avenue (Amber Alonzo)
- Hinsdale Dance Academy, 645 Blackhawk Drive (Jennifer Grapes)
- Mullane Healy Godley Irish Dance Company, 214 East Chicago Avenue (Lori Clune)
- Orangetheory, 19 West Ogden Avenue (Kathy Stratton)
- Woodgrain Neapolitan Pizzeria, 19 West Ogden Avenue (Ambrosia March)

- ✓ Added this year was the announcement of the winners of the 2016 Westmont Dining Reader's Choice Awards. The Westmont Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau in conjunction with Shaw Media, sponsored the 2016 Westmont Dining Reader's Choice Awards. The public was able to vote for their favorite restaurants, dining experiences and food during the time period of March 7, 2016 – March 27, 2016. There were 27 categories provided to consider. The winners were:

Best Bakery – La Petite Sweet

Best Mexican Restaurant – Las Palmas

Best Fast Food – Chipotle

Best Banquet Space – Hilton Chicago/Oak Brook Hills Resort & Conference Center

Best Holiday Brunch – Hilton Chicago/Oak Brook Hills Resort & Conference Center

Best BBQ – Uncle Bub’s BBQ

Best Catering – Uncle Bubs BBQ

Best Fast Casual – Uncle Bubs BBQ

Best Pizza – L & F Pizza

Best Breakfast – Golden Basket

Best Burger – DJ’s Sport Bar and Grill

Best Video Gaming – DJ’s Sports Bar and Grill

Best Coffee Shop – Brewed Awakening

Best Seafood – Pappadeaux Seafood Kitchen

Best Family Friendly Restaurant – Neat Kitchen + bar

Best Full Service – Neat Kitchen + bar

Best for Live Entertainment – Neat Kitchen +bar

Best Drinking Establishment – Neat Kitchen + bar

Best Sushi – Sushi House

Best Sandwich – J. Flemings Absolutely Delicious

Best for Outdoor Dining – J. Flemings Absolutely Delicious

Best Fine Dining – Bakersfield and Vincitori – a tie

Best Lunch – Standard Grill

Best Salad – Standard Grill

Best Asian – China Chef and Katy’s Dumpling House - a tie.

Best Ice Cream – Tasty Treat

Best Indian Restaurant- Saffron Restaurant

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The Westmont Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau, (WCCTB), is the voice of the Westmont Business community and provides the platform for our business community to work in support of enhanced economic development and growth for our Westmont Area. Learn more about WCCTB at www.westmontchamber.com.

Pictured from left to right, Debby Piha, 2015 Dick Busse Business-of-the-Year Award recipient Jon Kostal, Jon Kostal, Sr., Joseph Moffa, Chamber President Al Carson



Pictured from left to right, 2015 Roger Westman President's Award recipient Debby Piha, Chamber President Al Carson



Pictured from left to right, Mayor Ron Gunter, 2015 Westmont Citizen-of-the-Year Award recipient Chris Svitak, Chamber President Al Carson



Pictured from left to right, Debby Piha, 2015 Educator-of-the-Year Award recipient Colleen Walsh, Westmont Chamber of Commerce Educational Foundation President Joseph Moffa



Pictured from left to right, Deputy Fire Chief James Connolly, Chamber President Al Carson, 2015 Public Safety Officer-of-the-Year Award recipient Lieutenant Josh Turen, Joseph Moffa, Mayor Ron Gunter



Pictured from left to right, Valerie O'Connor, Rotary Club of Westmont Past-President Elaine Carmichael, 2015 Paul Harris Award recipient Kerry O'Connor, Chamber President Al Carson



Pictured from left to right, Village Trustee Linda Liddle, Westmont Special Events Corporation President Bob Reid, Kristina Wrobel, 2015 WSEC "Making Memories" Award recipient Chris Svitak, Chamber President Al Carson



Pictured from left to right, Mayor Ron Gunter, Village of Westmont 2015 Public Service Award recipient James Wright, Village Manager Stephen May



Event photos can be retrieved at the Photo Gallery at www.westmontchamber.com.