

Green Chamber of Commerce presents annual Impact Awards



By None

Staff at Doggie Day Care and Constant Companions

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By Tammy Proctor

The Suburbanite

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Green, Ohio -

The Green Chamber celebrated outstanding businesses during an awards luncheon Oct. 27 at Raintree Country. In the annual Impact Awards presentation, the Green Chamber of Commerce honored The GreenView Inn, Hattie Larlham Doggie Day Care and Constant Companion, the 356th Fighter Group Restaurant and the Home Builders Association serving Summit and Portage Counties.

Lori Howerton, the chamber's president, was joined by Mayor Dick Norton and Chamber Chairman Bob Keyes in the presentation of the awards.

"These are businesses that an impact in different areas of our community," said Howerton.

The first award, Vision Award, was presented to Hattie Larlham Doggie Day Care and Constant Companions. Hattie Larlham, an organization dedicated to caring for people with special needs, brought pet therapy to Green, said Howerton.

"It was clear via their research that regular contact with pets can have positive effects on the physical and emotional health of people with disabilities as well as on their quality of life," said Howerton.

Hattie Larlham and Doggie Day Care created a vision to team animals in the daily development and employment of people with disabilities. Lead by Rick Parsons, the organization employs 23 people, 19 with disabilities.

Constant Companions provides instruction for more than 30 people in Green.

The Community Award was presented to Tina and Bob Scofield, owners of the 356th Fighter Group Restaurant.

Howerton stated the Scofields are "all of the place," because they are an "intricate part of the community."

"We are in business because we are supported by our community in everything we do," said Bob.

The chamber said from offering regular dining experiences to catering the Green High School Prom, the 356th Fighter Group does whatever it can to help the community. In their 24th year in business, the Scofields believe anything their company does in the community is but a small thank you for the support they receive.

The Environment Award was presented to the Home Builders Association in partnership with the non-profit Urban Neighborhood Development Corporation for their work on a Kenmore home in which environmentally conscious building practices.

"They're goal is to bust a myth," said Howerton. "Green doesn't have to cost more."

FG Ayers and Rembrandt Homes, members of the local HBA, are the general contractors. While busting the myth that green homes are functional and cost effective, the contractors are working with Akron students to teach green building techniques.

The GreenView Inn at Town Center was named the 2009 Impact Award recipient because every aspect of their company considers details in the care of their residents.

Howerton said GreenView Inn at Town Center Senior Assisted Living began with the desire of Green residents John and Jane Warmus of Warmus Builders to give back to the community that had provided so much for them in terms of family life and business success. Joined by Executive Director Judy Terry, they shared a vision of creating a home which provides a way of life which nurtures the spirit and enriches the lives of both the residents and their families.

Howerton pointed out the many community events sponsored by GreenView Inn, such as their dances, which are open to the entire Green senior community.

Keynote speaker at the luncheon was last year's Impact Award winner, InfoCision Senior Vice President Corporate Affairs Steve Brubaker. He talked about connections between a company, the employees and the community.

"Chambers are a conduit to connect businesses," said Brubaker as he thanked the Green Chamber of Commerce for the opportunity to be a part of the presentation ceremony.

For more information about the events and networking opportunities provided by the Green Chamber of Commerce go online to www.greencoc.org or call 330-896-3023.

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