

# Local winners of Chamber Awards

Acton businesses nabbed two of the four Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce 2010 Business Achievement Awards which were selected following judging on Monday. There was close to record-setting number of nominations with multiple nominations for the winners.

Dufferin Aggregates,

Acton Quarry captured the Business of the Year Award, and Party Cinemas earned the Entrepreneur of the Year Award. Independent and Free Press photographer Ted Brown won the Employee of the Year Award, and the Green Award went to Glen Williams-based Sheridan Nurseries.

Acton's Anthony Andrews was "pretty floored" to get a phone call on Monday telling him that his business had been selected for the Entrepreneur of the Year award. Andrew said it should be Entrepreneurs, plural, because without his business partner and friend, Frank Marsh, the

award would not have been possible.

"I felt my face flush when I heard that we'd won. It was unexpected, but really appreciated," Andrews said on Tuesday. Party Cinemas began three years ago when Andrews, a DJ, and Marsh held an outdoor movie/barbecue for their friends, and were surprised when a lot of passing cars stopped to see what was going on.

The business grew to include monthly video dances, popular movies in the park during the summer, and special events and parties. "I think we caught on because we are community-minded and we want to give back to the community with charitable events," Andrews said.

Environmental stewardship, generous community donations and a passion for safety were some of the reasons that Dufferin Aggregate's Acton Quarry earned the Business of the Year Award.

Nominated by Dufferin's parent company, Holcim (Canada) Inc., the Acton operation was praised for its long-term commitment to its neighbours while supplying high-quality aggregate for the construction industry.

The Acton Quarry, established in the early 1900s, is an important contributor

to the local economy and officials say it is fully committed to corporate social responsibility and environmental performance.

Giving back to the community is a company mindset and includes Earth Week tree planting event,

Prospect Park and the Acton splash pad.

For the first time, only paid-up Chamber members were eligible for the Business and Entrepreneur of the Year. Chamber president Sue Walker said, "being a good business



**DUFFERIN QUARRY:** It's commitment to corporate social responsibility and environmental performance earned Dufferin Aggregates Acton Quarry the 2010 Business of the Year Award. – Submitted photo



**ENTREPRENEURS:** Acton's Anthony Andrews (left) and partner Frank Marsh and their Party Cinemas business were named Entrepreneurs of the Year. – Submitted photo

annual open houses, a community liaison committee and major support of local projects including the Limehouse Kiln Society, the Dufferin Rural Heritage Community Centre in

is being engaged in the business community, and being part of the Chamber of Commerce." She said the Business award recipient has consistently been a Chamber member and, unfortunately, many of the Entrepreneur awardees were out of businesses within two or three years of winning the award.

The annual Business Achievement Awards banquet is March 9 at Glencairn Golf Course. For ticket information, call the Chamber at 905-877-7119 or e-mail to mary@haltonhillschamber.on.ca.



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