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Chamber business awards announced

Market Place named Business of the Year

By LISA TALLYN
Staff Writer

This was already going to be an exciting year for Georgetown Market Place because it's set to begin a major renovation this summer, but now there's another reason—the mall has been named the Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce's 2011 Business of the Year.

Other recipients of the Chamber's Business Achievement Awards announced Monday are Employee of the Year: Christina Kelman, Customer Relations Coordinator for TD Canada Trust in Acton, Entrepreneur of the Year: Valerie Leachman, owner of The Way We Were Ladies Consignment Boutique in Georgetown, and Green Award: Heritage Acton for the Acton Town Hall Centre. The recipients will be honoured at a banquet March 7, the location hasn't been determined yet.

"Georgetown Market Place has become Georgetown's Town Square where friends and family meet for a coffee, conversation and shopping," said Doug Penrice, the Town's Economic Development

Officer in his nomination for the Business of the Year.

He said the mall is a "strong financial contributor" to the many organizations in town including Georgetown Hospital and Light Up The Hills, and Georgetown Market Place shows its "pride of place" by keeping the property well maintained and with beautiful landscaping.

Penrice said the mall plays another important role in the town by allowing community groups to set up in common areas for fundraising and information events. Approximately 200 community groups have displays in the mall each year. Also, the mall hosts, on average, two special events each month, such as the insect and water conservation displays that not only bring in shoppers but also provide educational opportunities.

"Much of the credit for its strong presence in the community goes to property manager Herminia Henderson and her team who are true ambassadors for Halton Hills," said Penrice.

"It's a great honour," said Penrice, the Town's Economic Development Officer. **See BUSINESS, pg. 4**



Wendy Weatherall, assistant to the property manager, and Herminia Henderson, property manager, of the Georgetown Market Place, pose with an oversized photo of the mall circa 1992. The Market Place has been named the Chamber of Commerce's Business of the Year for 2011. Photo by Eamonn Maher

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