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## Laurent Thibault named Georgetown's Citizen of the Year

By **LISA TALLYN**  
Staff Writer

Georgetown's 2011 Citizen of the Year has a long history of giving back to his community.

Laurent Thibault has been selected by the Georgetown Lions Club as the recipient of the award that has been handed out each year since 1972 to recognize the contributions that volunteers make in the town.

Lion Doug Penrice said, not only has Thibault given back to his community, but "in a broader sense to the country, his efforts have touched literally thousands of people.

"Laurent is an inspiration to all who know and have worked with him on the countless projects and committees in Georgetown," said Penrice.

"I'm pleased of course," said Thibault of the award. "It was a bit of a surprise."

He said while one person may receive the award, in reality there are a number of

people doing similar volunteer work in the community.

"You feel like you're accepting on behalf of everyone you have had the pleasure to work with," said Thibault.

He enjoys volunteering.

"It's hugely satisfying because you meet such terrific people who are community builders," he said.

Thibault began volunteering as soon as he moved to Georgetown in 1975 by coaching boys' soccer and he hasn't stopped since then.

"He is currently chairman of the Georgetown Hospital Foundation and has been instrumental in moving forward to raise funds for the much-needed expansion of the Emergency Department, and improvements in the diagnostic capabilities including the purchase of a CT scanner," said Penrice. He added, in the last few years, the Foundation has raised record amounts in the community.

Laurent Thibault has been selected by the Georgetown Lions Club as Georgetown's 2011 Citizen of the Year. A longtime volunteer, Thibault is currently chair of the Georgetown Hospital Foundation and has spearheaded the fundraising campaign for the hospital expansion. Photo by Ted Brown

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