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Business seminar to focus on communication

Enrich your Communication Skills at the next Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce business lunch seminar, Friday, April 27, 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Oakville residents Dr. Dennis Chong and Jennifer K. Chong, world renowned speakers, seminar leaders and authors, present the seminar at North Halton Golf and Country Club. They offer practical insight on how to relate to your customers and improve staff rapport and avoid costly miscommunication.

Reserve your spot by calling the chamber office, 877-7119. The cost is members, \$20 and non-members, \$25.

Scotch Block Winery captures seven awards at national competition

Cotch Block Country Winery, operated by Andrews Scenic Acres in Halton Hills, cap-Utured seven awards at the second annual Canadian National Fruit Wines Competition.

Scotch Block won its first gold medal for Cassis, a sweet dessert wine made from black currants grown at the farm.

Silver medals were earned for Gooseberry 2000, Regal Black Currant and Elderberry.

Bronzes for True Blue, Red Currant Cassis and

Framboise rounded out the 'lucky seven'. " "I was a bit overwhelmed at first," said Bert

Andrews, who along with his wife Lauraine are owners of Andrews Scenic Acres and Scotch Block Winery. "It's quite a thrill to see the winery grow from only a vision a couple of years ago into a position where we're readily competing against wineries that have been established for more than a decade."

The National Fruit Wine Competition, run by Fruit Wines of Canada, is a showcase of the best Canadian wines. fruit

'It's quite a thrill to see the winery grow from only a vision a couple of years ago ... '

-president Bert Andrews

Twenty-eight wineries from seven provinces entered 160 wines into the competition. They were judged by a panel of experts from the Wine Writers Circle and the Wine Judges Commission of Ontario.

"I really have to give the credit to our winemaker on this one," said Andrews, "without his knowledge and expertise we wouldn't have come so far so fast."

Brian Moreau, Scotch Block's resident winemaker,

said he was overjoyed with the accolades.

"I have been making wine for nearly 25 years, first as a hobby and labour of love, then I turned that into a profession. When I first started making wine for a living they were naturally the ones I liked. It is the customers that tell me what they want and those are the ones that won the awards."

He adds, "every winemaker worth his salt will tell you that great wine starts in the fields so the credit really goes to the people that grow the fruit and that's the people who work with Bert."

Andrews said the winery is the perfect adjunct to the existing farm and all the staff are excited to see and taste the results of the "fruits of their labour."

"We are all convinced that value-added products and services are the cornerstone of growth for business into the new millennium," said Andrews. "Right now we're looking forward to the new asparagus and rhubarb crops and the Farm Market opening the first weekend in May."

The winery is open only on Saturdays but will open seven days a week starting on May 5. It's dedicated to producing premium quality wines made from 100 per cent farm-fresh Ontario fruit.

Andrews Scenic Farms is located in southwest Halton Hills, on 10 Sideroad between the Third and Fourth Lines.

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