

Acton businesses dominate Chamber awards

Superior Glove, Acton Optical and MacKinnon Funeral Home honoured

By Frances Niblock

Acton's domination of top business awards continued at a gala celebration last Thursday when the winners of the 2006 Chamber of Commerce achievement awards received plaques, praise and much-deserved recognition at a dinner and ceremony at Glen Cairn Golf Club.

Three Acton businesses – Superior Glove, MacKinnon Family Funeral Home and Acton Optical – received honours from the Chamber, Town, provincial and federal governments – and loud clapping and cheers from family and friends in the audience.

Joe Geng, who shared Superior Glove's win as

Business of the Year with father Frank and brother Tony, had the best line of the night when he said he and his brother were quite surprised when told of their win in a phone call from the Chamber.

"We were so surprised that my brother told them they had the wrong number, and told them how to reach Dufferin [Aggregates], Joe Geng said, drawing attention to Dufferin's community efforts including a \$200,000 donation to the Agricultural Society/soccer building in Prospect Park.

Proud to contribute "Everyone at Superior is really proud to be able to contribute back to our community through things like



BUSINESS BEST: Top business owners received praise and plaques at the Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce annual business achievement awards ceremony and dinner last Thursday at Glen Cairn Golf Club. MacKinnon Family Funeral Home owners Margaret (left) and Bob MacKinnon of Acton earned the Civic Pride Award, Acton Optical owner Nancy Wilkes received the Entrepreneur of the Year Award, Town works supervisor Dick Spear is the Chamber's Employee of the Year, and Business of the Year honours went to Superior Glove owners Joe and Tony Geng of Acton. – Frances Niblock photo

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Business of the Year - Superior Glove

Entrepreneur of the Year - Nancy Wilkes- Acton Optical

Employee of the Year - Dick Spear - Town of Halton Hills

Civic Pride winners of the Year - Margaret & Bob MacKinnon - MacKinnon Family Funeral Home

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helping with minor hockey, the skateboard park and sponsoring the Leathertown Festival," Geng said, adding he is proud to be part of a business community that contributed over \$400,000 to the new fair building and over \$100,000 to the skateboard park.

"This level of community pride is something you

don't find in many places and is something to really be appreciated in Halton Hills," Geng said.

The Entrepreneur of the Year Award was accepted by Acton Optical owner Nancy Wilkes who said to be honoured for hard work is an extra bonus, as is living and working in a small town like Acton.

"The town has made me feel so welcome, it's been a pleasure to do what I do, and I love what I do, and can't thank you enough," Wilkes said as she received the award for the new business that displays superior customer service, innovation and creativity.

Curb appeal
The tedious hard work of MacKinnon Family Funeral Home employee Paul Evans last summer added much to the Mill Street building's curb appeal, and Evans' efforts to scrape many decades of paint off the façade and wooden gingerbread

trim were noted as Margaret and Bob MacKinnon accepted the Civic Pride Award from the Chamber.

"This award is very gratifying," said Bob MacKinnon, noting maintenance on the building, constructed in 1879 is ongoing.

The Chamber's new Junior Achievement Award was accepted by CPI employee Virginia Hornby who volunteers her time and talents to introduce teens to the business world and said she wants to "inspire children through

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TOP WORKER: Dick Spear (centre) the Town's public works supervisor, accepted the Employee of the Year Award from Chamber president Helen MacCormack and Bruce McIntyre with sponsor Dover Industries.

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Great job to all the winners and keep up the outstanding work! You make us all proud.

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