

Chamber's Community Awards presented to citizens, business owners

John moved to Campbellville. Active in the Nassagaweya Community Consultation Committee for 20 years, she worked with police to make the area safer, creating a rural watch in 1980.

Each year, she organizes and runs the roadside clean-up. An avid gardener, Woods has been member of the Milton Horticultural Society for more than 15 years, active with gardening projects around town. She's also an active member of the Destination Campbellville Community Association beautifying the community and organizing special events such as the village's Santa Claus parade.

Personally, Woods said she gets so much out of volunteering in her community. She shared the story of a youngster who came out to help with a roadside clean-up one April and said — while eating the hot dog the volunteers are given — that "it was the best day ever." Considering the child's family had just returned from a Disney vacation, Woods laughed, "Geez, they wasted all that money on Disney World and all they had to do was spend a day picking up garbage."

Stories like that keep her going, she said. Francois and Barb Fullum were the joint Citizen of the Year award recipients for their devotion and involvement at the Milton Centre for the Arts. Barb has been involved in music



The business award recipients include (from left), Sandra Penman and Andrew Martin of Johnson Controls (Business of the Year Award 100 employees or more), Athena O'Connell of BANG! Creative Communications (Business of the Year 99 employees or less), Milton Chamber of Commerce President Richard Bolton, David O'Connell of BANG! Creative Communications, Maria Locker of Milton Mompreneurs (Entrepreneur of the Year) and Leslie McLaren of Roxul Inc. (Business Person of the Year). *James Hoggett / Special to the Champion*

since she began piano lessons in Grade 5. She has been teaching piano lessons to children and adults for more than 35 years. Barb has been a longtime volunteer in the Milton Music Teachers Association, helping with annual concerts and projects. She's also involved with Milton Concert Presentations as a director.

These days the couple is involved in the Milton Downtown Street Festival, the Strawberry Fair, Ribfest and the Cruisin' on the Hot Summer's Night classic car show.

Francois got involved in the Milton Santa

Claus Parade, where he was the past president, and Canada Day festivities.

"It's gratifying to give back to the community," said Barb, adding it felt like she was at the Academy Awards receiving an Oscar. "Volunteering is fulfilling... meeting new people and visiting with people at the arts centre and the seniors' centre.

"We've made a lot of close friends just for being there."

Joyce Hagevik Volunteer of the Year award recipient Carlanna Sdao echoed those sentiments in accepting her award.

"I've learned a lot about this community by volunteering," she said. "To be an true citizen of Milton, you become a volunteer."

Sdao, who along with her husband Diego is involved in the Tim Hortons Children's Foundation of which she's an ambassador, said she was overcome with emotion when she heard she had won the award.

For years, she has spearheaded Tim Hortons' Camp Days at each of the couple's three restaurants. She has been responsible for sending some 200 children to camp over the last 20 years.

"My goal was, and is, to send as many children as possible to camp, so they can learn leadership skills to grow," she said.

In addition to that, Sdao is involved in Milton Good Neighbours Community Day, the Darling Home for Kids, Arts Milton, the Milton Centre for the Arts, the Mayor's Gala for the Arts and the Italian Canadian Club of Milton. Sdao called the evening a "glorious memory" that she will forever share with family and friends. She quoted author Dr. Seuss in her acceptance speech: "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not."

Other highlights of the evening included Johnson Controls LP being named the Business of the Year, 100 employees or more.

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