

**BUSINESS:** Stouffville's entrepreneurial Oscars

# Jeweller, radio station receiving new awards from chamber

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David Barthau is the Whitchurch-Stouffville Chamber of Commerce's first-ever lifetime achievement award winner.

The announcement was made Monday during the chamber's Business Recognition Awards nominee presentation.

"We, as a chamber of commerce and the organizing committee, wanted to recognize a business person in the community for their length of service and their community involvement," said Karen Cashin, chairperson of the chamber's business awards selection committee.

*The awards banquet and ceremony, complete with Academy Awards theme, will take place Sept. 23 at Stouffville Creek Retirement residence.*

"We wanted somebody with a well-known local profile, who was also recognized for supporting local events and activities."

"I'm quite honoured to be recognized," Mr. Barthau, owner of Barthau Jewellers said in an interview with The Sun-Tribune. "I had no idea. I don't submit my name for any awards. I guess I figure if someone is going to be awarded it

should be on merit or peer recognition."

Mr. Barthau opened his jewellery store in 1978 and two years later he and his family moved from Markham to Stouffville.

"I thought, 'It's a great town. We've got to move up there.' And I didn't like the commute from Markham to Stouffville," he said.

Mr. Barthau has been a chamber of commerce member since the early 1980s and spearheaded the creation of the Stouffville Business Improvement area, which is now the Downtown Stouffville Working Group.

He has also been involved with the Stouffville Lions Club and in 2000 he started the organization's vision screening program for children.

## COMMUNITY WORKER

"It's benefited so many kids because we've identified vision problems," Mr. Barthau said.

Also receiving a new award at the Sept. 23 gala event, will be WhiStle Radio. It will be given the Hall of Fame award for outstanding non-profit organization or agency.

"Through the combined efforts of so many individuals, WhiStle Radio is a prime example of what and how far one idea or vision can actually become. Amidst all other possible recipients it is an honour to receive the hall of fame award for a non-profit organization in 2010 and accordingly to be recognized for the tireless efforts of the many caring and diligent people



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Andy Walker, general manager of the Stouffville Creek Retirement Home in Stouffville, presents popcorn to (from left) Bob Donald, a director of WhiStle Radio, David Barthau of Barthau Jewellers, and Karen Cashin, of the Whitchurch-Stouffville Chamber of Commerce. WhiStle Radio will receive the Hall of Fame Award for a non-profit organization or agency and Mr. Barthau the first lifetime achievement award, recognizing his contributions to the community through volunteer and charitable activities, at next month's awards event.

who emulate Stouffville's community spirit," said Peter Fraunberger, chairperson of WhiStle Radio.

Three categories of nominees were also revealed this week:

- Business entrepreneur of the year: Stouffville Florist - Kim Everson, the Hearty Artichoke - Suze Joyce and SNAP News - Attilia and Tina Demjen.
- Business of the year: Southwire Canada, Willow Springs Winery, Mr. Radon and Stouffville Creek Retirement.
- Corporate citizen of the year: Susan Acton of Boston Pizza, Norm Clements representing Northern Gate Retirement Community and

Dr. Peter Weidlich of Town and Country Animal Hospital.

Winners will be chosen by an independent group who are not members of the chamber's board or awards selection committee, according to Mardi Taylor, executive director of the organization.

## CANCELLED LAST YEAR

The awards were cancelled last year, so chamber members were not sure what the response would be when they put out the call for nominations this year.

"We were very pleased. We felt we got an excellent response from the community," Ms Taylor said.

The awards banquet and ceremony, complete with Academy Awards theme, will take place Sept. 23 at Stouffville Creek Retirement residence. The reception runs from 6 to 8 p.m., followed by dinner and the awards.

"I'm expecting a sell-out," Ms Taylor said. "It's an opportunity to network with the business community of Whitchurch-Stouffville and to support the business community for what they add."

Tickets are \$65 for chamber members and \$75 for non-members and available from the chamber via [chamber@whitchurchstouffville.ca](mailto:chamber@whitchurchstouffville.ca) or 905-642-4227.

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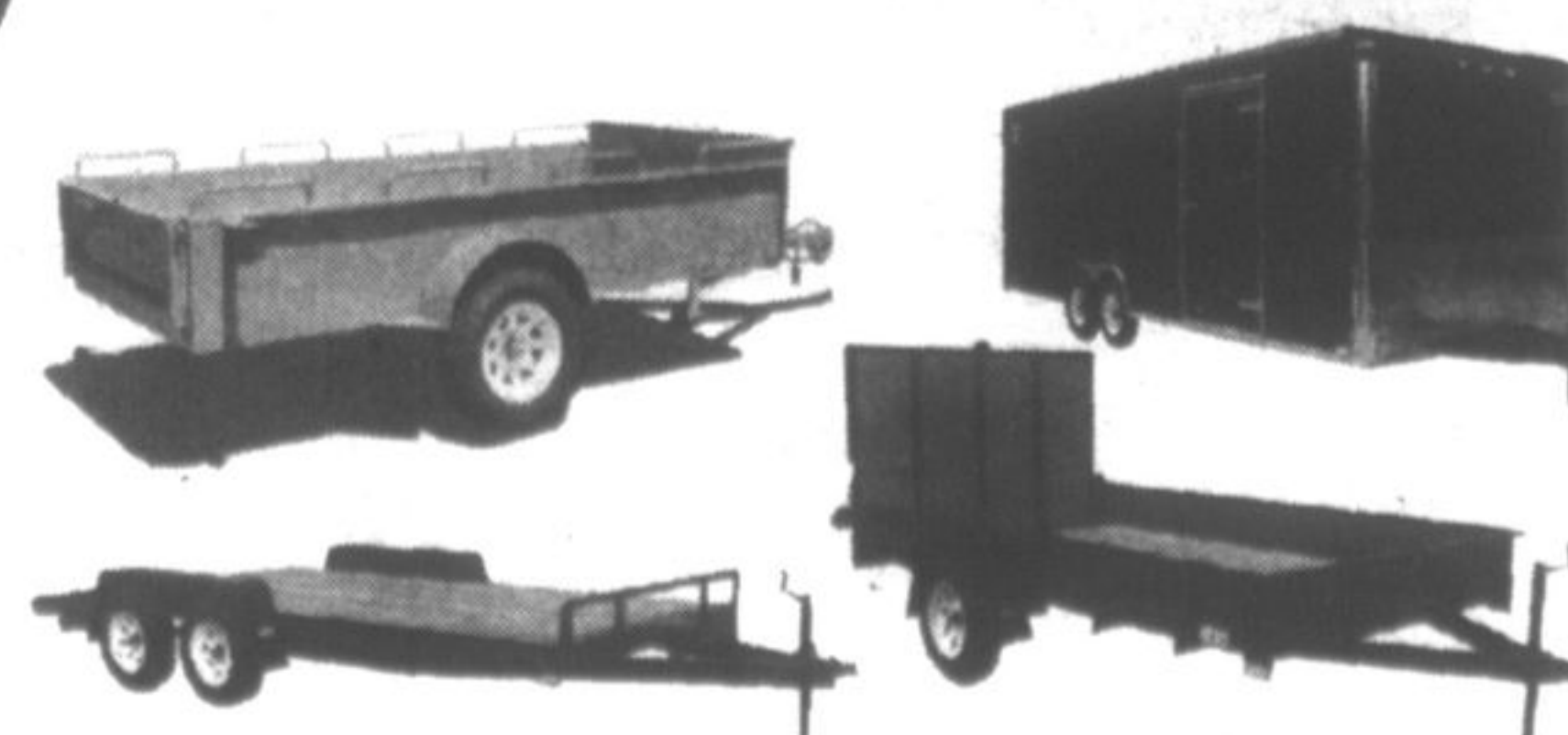
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## Works centre delayed again

Occupancy of the town's new operations centre has once again been delayed by a month.

The move-in date is now slated for Oct. 22. In May, the anticipated occupancy date was Aug. 31 and before that it was expected to be in June or July.

"Aquicon (the contractor) actually slipped in the month of July due mostly to its trades not keeping up with the schedule," wrote Paul Whitehouse, director of public works for the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville in his report to council Tuesday.

Despite the delays, the project is expected to come in on budget - \$10.76 million.

The centre, at Hwy. 48 and Bethesda Road, will consist of a 28,987-square-foot main, operations building, a 4,465-square-foot unheated storage facility and a 10,147-square-foot salt/sand storage building.