

# BOTTOM LINE

VOLUME 9, ISSUE 1

MARCH, 2012

## OBA GALA CELEBRATES FLAMBOROUGH'S BEST



Photos courtesy of Wilf Arndt

The Flamborough Chamber of Commerce (FCC) continued an annual tradition by recognizing, honouring and celebrating the very best in local corporate excellence and community service at the 2012 *Outstanding Business Achievement* (OBA) awards gala held on February 25, 2012 at the Carlisle Golf & Country Club.

ABOVE: Dragica Lebo (left) of Hamilton's Small Business Enterprise Centre congratulates Nicole Martin of Talent Search Summer Camp after Nicole was named the recipient of the *Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award*. Dragica was a mentor to Nicole.

RIGHT, TOP: Nominees for the *Sandy Gray/Weeks Home Hardware Community Service by an Individual Award* are pictured with the award's namesake (fourth from right). The nominees are (from left) Wilf Arndt (Waterdown Business Improvement Area), Norm Read (Beckett Lowden Read), Gary Aikema (Shelterclad Construction), Max and Dante DiFelice (Waterdown Collision), Maria Demkowich (JDJ Trailers), Penny Deathe (LMI International) and Shirley Eden (Soroptimists International - Dundas-Ancaster-Flamborough).



RIGHT, MIDDLE: FCC Boardmember Wendy Martin (right - Sutton Real Estate) introduced the nominees for the *Business Growth and Development Award*. They are (from left) Chris and Shawn Brenn (Brenn-B-Farms), Deb and Marti McCann (McCann Professional Dog Trainers) Ross Ferguson (Airways Transit) and Donna and Allan Warring (Greensville Gourmet).

RIGHT, BOTTOM: FCC Boardmember Jason Small (Flamborough Community Church) presented a *Community Recognition Award* to the Dundas-Ancaster-Flamborough chapter of Soroptimists International (SI-DAF) which was accepted by (from left) Pauline Hardcastle, Shirley McCoy, Nancy Davidson, Sandy Gray, Shirley Eden, Maria Demkowich and Janet Barnard



More on pages 3, 5 and 8. Watch for additional profiles in future editions

## WATERDOWN COLLISION

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*Continued on Page 7*

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## MAINWAY HUNTER CREIGHTON



Photos courtesy of Wilf Arndt

## OBA GALA CELEBRATES THE VERY BEST



ABOVE: MPP Ted McMeekin (right) and FCC Boardmember Ron Graham (left - Lafarge Canada) presented the *Town of Flamborough Award* to the Rotary Clubs of Flamborough AM and Waterdown for their OH CANADA Ribfest initiative. The award was accepted by (from left) Nick Brown, Dave Banks, Gary Ewart, Margaret Robertson and Christina Birmingham. ABOVE, RIGHT: Treasurer Janet Barnard presented the *FCC Service Award* to Stephen Simeone of the Dutch Mill Country Market. RIGHT and RIGHT, BOTTOM: Sandy Gray and MP David Sweet presented the *Sandy Gray/Weeks Home Hardware Community Service Award* to Norm Read (Beckett Lowden Read Chartered Accountants) and 8-year-old Dante DiFelice (joined by his Dad, Max) of Waterdown Collision. BELOW: FCC Boardmember Wendy Wasylowich (left - Flamboro Downs) presented a *Civic Recognition Award* to the Flamborough Women's Resource Centre, which was accepted by Sandra Duden. LEFT, BOTTOM: Ward 15 Councillor Judi Partridge (right) and Director Neil Everson (left) of Hamilton's Economic Development Department (the OBA's event sponsor) presented the *Business Growth and Development Award* to Deb and Marti Mc-Cann of McCann Professional Dog Trainers. LEFT, CENTRE: Ward 14 Councillor Robert Pasuta (right) and OLG's Tracey Van Gageldonk (second from right - representing the OBA awards sponsor) presented the *Business Growth and Development Award* to Allan and Donna Warring of Greensville Gourmet. LEFT, TOP: The mother and daughter team of Haley (Spoiled Rotten Pet Services) and FCC Boardmember Teresa Luckanuck presented the *Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award* to Nicole Martin (centre) of Summer Camp Talent Search. Haley was the first recipient of the award.



*Watch for full profiles on all the nominees and recipients in future editions of the Bottom Line.*



## WATERDOWN BIA

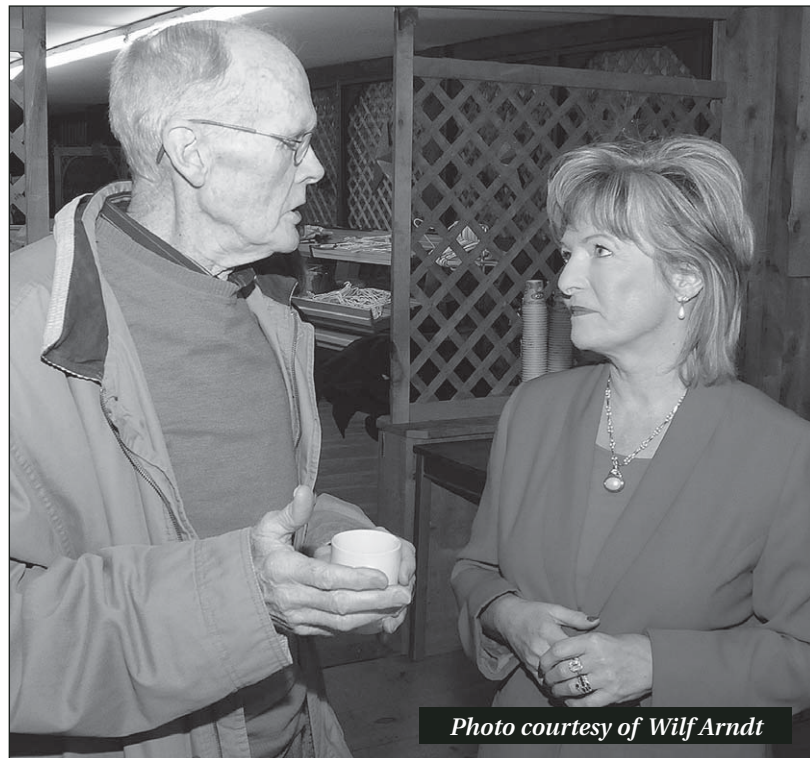


Photo courtesy of Wilf Arndt

Jim Aitkin of Rankin Septic Tank Pumping and Environmental Services chats with Ward 15 Councillor Judi Partridge at the January, 2012 meeting of the Flamborough Breakfast Club – co-hosted by the Flamborough Chamber of Commerce (FCC) and the Rotary Club of Flamborough AM at the Dutch Mill Country Market.

## JIM AITKIN 1942-2012

Our hearts are heavy.

The Flamborough Chamber of Commerce (FCC) – and indeed the entire ‘community of communities’ that we know and love as Flamborough – is saddened at news of the passing of James ‘Jim’ Aitkin. As the owner of Rankin’s Environmental Services, Jim was a charter member of the FCC – and remained a faithful and involved member during our 30-year history.

During my dozen years at the *Flamborough Review* and over the past 8 years at the FCC, Jim became a trusted friend and adviser. There are few people more concerned about Flamborough’s wellbeing and best interests than Jim.

He would often drop in unexpectedly to share his thoughts and opinions – and I always made time to listen to him as I knew what he had to say was important. Always referring to me simply as ‘AK,’ he would even phone me from his beloved Arizona winter home to share his perspectives.

When I underwent emergency bypass surgery on Christmas Day in 2008, Jim –

who courageously faced a myriad of serious medical challenges – was among the first to provide support and comfort.

The last time I saw Jim was at the January meeting of the *Flamborough Breakfast Club*, co-hosted by the FCC and the Rotary Club of Flamborough AM. As you can see from the picture at left – taken at the meeting – Jim was in fine form, sharing his thoughts on the Millgrove truck route fiasco with Ward 15 Councillor Judi Partridge.

To his wife Joyce and his sons Chris and Paul – as well as to his extended (and very large) circle of family, friends, colleagues and admirers – the FCC extends its deepest sympathies.

May we all find comfort – and delight – in Jim’s legacy.

Friends were received at the Kitching Steepe & Ludwig Funeral Home and the funeral service was held at St. James United Church on Sunday, March 18 followed by a reception at the Waterdown Legion.

*Arend Kersten, Executive Director  
Flamborough Chamber of Commerce*

### OUTSTANDING BUSINESS ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS CELEBRATE THE VERY BEST IN CORPORATE EXCELLENCE

#### LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

*Col. Gordon Dailley*  
African Lion Safari  
*Mike Demkowich*  
J.D.J. Trailers  
*Domenic DiFelice*  
Waterdown Collision  
*Hank Gelderman*  
Jan Gelderman Landscaping  
*Bill Grisdale*  
Grisdale Enterprises  
*Jay Hughes*  
Jay’s Auto Service  
*Karen Hunt*  
Rockton Dinner Theatre  
*Charles & Margaret Juravinski*  
flamboro downs  
*Archie McCoy*  
McCoy Foundry  
*Jim and Margaret Robertson*  
Pause Awhile Tea Room  
*Ron Steepe*  
Kitching Steepe & Ludwig  
Funeral Home

*Ernie Weeks*  
Weeks of Waterdown Home  
Hardware

#### BUSINESS GROWTH AND ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

2006 - *Hickory Dickory Decks*  
2006 - *DanceMakerz*  
2007 - *CHOICES*  
2007 - *Magnolia House Spa*  
2008 - *Dufferin Aggregates*  
2008 - *Aventix*  
2009 - *Langford Pharmacy*  
2009 - *Waterdown  
Optometric Clinic*  
2010 - *The Lock Hut*  
2010 - *Millgrove Gardens*

#### SANDRA GRAY/ WEEKS HOME HARDWARE AWARD

*Community Service  
by an Individual Award*  
2006 - *Deb Tigchelaar*  
Drummond House  
2007 - *Tom Jacques*

Hickory Dickory Decks  
2008 - *Heather Johnston  
and Ted Lindsay*  
Flamborough Review  
2009 - *Peter Barnes*  
Waterdown Youth Centre  
2010 - *Marti Van Hoeve*  
Van Hoeve Homes

#### CHAMBER OF COMMERCE GREEN AWARD

2008 - *Waterdown Collision*  
2009 - *Nathan Helder*  
Gelderman Landscaping  
2010 - *Sensible Life Products*

#### YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR AWARD

2009 - *Haley Luckanuck*  
Spoiled Rotten Pet Services

#### COMMUNITY SERVICE BY A COMPANY AWARD

2006 - *Flamboro Speedway*  
2007 - *Jay’s Auto*

2008 - *Terra Greenhouses*  
2010 - *Waterdown Dairy Queen*

#### FCC AWARD

2006 - *Arend Kersten*  
Flamborough  
Chamber of Commerce  
2007 - *Lafarge (Dundas)*  
2008 - *COGECO*  
2009 - *Robert Pasuta*  
Councillor - Ward 14  
2010 - *Fred Eisenberger*  
Mayor - City of Hamilton

#### TOWN OF FLAMBOROUGH AWARD

2006 - *Sylvia Wray*  
Flamborough Archives  
2007 - *flamboro downs*  
2008 - *Cpl. Chris Klodt*  
2009 - *Gail Bosma*  
Flamborough Food Bank  
2010 - *Ryan Ellis*  
*Mark Visentin*  
Canadian Junior Hockey Team

## HAMILTON TECHNOLOGY CENTRE



# SANDRA (SANDY) GRAY

## Lifetime Achievement Award

When asked to describe Sandy Gray, a member of the Dundas-Ancaster-Flamborough club of Soroptimists International - or SIDAF for short - used these words: "Passionate, hard working, funny, generous to a fault, social, lives life fully every day, lives large, fun loving, doting grandmother, leader, loud (sometimes), gets things done, resourceful, charitable, reliable, smart, loves Martinis"

And then she added: "I know I've missed a few."

But she wasn't through.

When asked of Sandy's impact as a member of SIDAF, she said: "Well, it's never been the same since she joined. We love her. She has moved the club along in a way 'that only Sandy can.' I call it 'Sandy's Way.' Her motto is simple: 'Lead, follow or get out my way.'"

This SIDAF member nailed it. In a nutshell, she has described Sandy Gray.

Sandy was born in Oakville, raised in Burlington and moved to Waterdown at 15 years old when her parents purchased Weeks of Waterdown. Sandy and her partners - husband Steve and brother David Smith - purchased the business from her parents in 1987 and built and opened the store in its present location in 1989.

Sandy and Steve raised their family in Flamborough and their two children Erin and Brandon are now both married and have homes in Waterdown.

Sandy isn't sure where her desire to help others came from. Or when it started. Her earliest recollection was the desire to have the fullest UNICEF box at Halloween as child. And she remembers the many bike-athons she participated in as a teen.

When her children attended Balaclava School, Sandy - of course - became part of the school's Annual Fun Fair committee. She was asked to run the silent auction. She implemented many changes of how that fundraiser operated over the years - along with the expectations of the proceeds of that event.

The earliest 'public' events that Sandy remembers organizing were the charity barbeques that she hosted a few times a year at the store - with her kids Erin and Brandon assisting. For each of the cook-outs, Sandy would choose a local charity as the recipient of the proceeds. That was usually the Flamborough Food Bank, Animal Adoptions of Flamborough or Interval House.

Sandy's connection with Interval House goes back to its Yellow School Bus campaign. Interval House was asking for



Photos courtesy of Wilf Arndt

After being awarded its prestigious *Lifetime Achievement Award* by the Flamborough Chamber of Commerce at the 2012 *Outstanding Business Achievement (OBA)* awards gala at the Carlisle Golf & Country Club, Sandy Gray is joined by her children for a photo. Joining Sandy are Laura and Brandon Gray (left) and Erin and Jason Hall.

donations and brought a bus to the parking lot at Fortino's at 9 a.m. on a particular Saturday morning. Sandy decided to stop by and give a \$200 cash donation. That led to a long-time friendship with Gisela Zehmer - then with Interval House and now with Drummond House.

At Weeks Home Hardware, Sandy always felt that it needed to help those who asked for support. "As long as we had the luxury of making a profit, it was our obligation to support the community supporting us," Sandy says. "I did however realize long ago that as I was the one handling the donations that it was up to me to make sure our business received proper recognition."

Sandy has always been 'crafty' and had been making some Halloween and Christmas earrings for personal use. She soon realized that she could make 'things' and raise money

The United Way, CHOICES, Drummond House as well as the charities mentioned earlier.

The list goes on and on.

There's Sandy's association with the Dan Gallant Memorial Car Show and Scholarship Fund that has created a \$100,000 scholarship fund at Georgian College. There's the two Canada Day Car shows that raised money for the YMCA's Strong Kids and for the Flamborough Women's Resource Centre - which has raised over \$12,500 even though the car shows did not have the big push for charity. And let's not forget the annual car show Sandy hosts at Alexander Place - which is now in its 6th year.

Sandy's involvement with our community issues goes back a long way. As a woman in business, she faced numerous challenges - especially a woman in the man's world of the hardware business. Back in the early to

the adversities facing women in our world. Naturally I gravitated towards efforts that benefited women and girls and thus my attraction to the Soroptimist International club of Dundas, Ancaster, Flamborough."

Sandy soon became the head of fundraising for SIDAF - and the budget for community support has gone from around \$6,000 dollars annually to a projected budget of over \$20,000 for 2012!

This is how Shirley Eden, the current SIDAF president sums it all up: "If you want a job done, give it to a woman. If you want it done now and you want it done right, give it to Sandy - generous, hard working and a great wife, mother and granny."

The Flamborough Chamber of Commerce agrees.

And the FCC knows Sandy - she is after all a past president of the FCC Board of Directors.

Sandy - who with her partners recently sold Weeks Home hardware of Waterdown - now joins Flamborough's most exclusive club - that small number of local business icons who have been honoured with the FCC's prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award.

In alphabetical order, the members of the club are: the late Col. Gordon Dailley (African Lion Safari), the late Mike Demkovich (J.D.J. Trailers), Domenic DiFelice (Waterdown Collision), Hank Gelderman (Jan Gelderman Landscaping), Bill Grisdale (Grisdale Enterprises), the late Jay Hughes (Jay's Auto Service), Karen Hunt (Rockton Dinner Theatre), Charles and Margaret Juravinski (flamborodowns), the late Archie McCoy (McCoy Foundry), Margaret and the late Jim Robertson (Pause Awhile Tea Room), Ron Steepe (Kitching Steepe & Ludwig Funeral Home) and of course, Ernie Weeks (Weeks of Waterdown Home Hardware).

Sandy, now it's your turn. A grateful community thanks you! Welcome to the club!!



Graham Flint - Vice President of the Flamborough Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors - presented the *Lifetime Achievement Award* to Sandy Gray for her many contributions to the community as a co-owner of Weeks Home Hardware.

with what she created - and she just happened to own a store where she could sell it. The rest - as they say - is history.

Over the last number of years Sandy has donated well over \$15,000 via these crafty efforts to local charities, including

mid 70's, Sandy often faced the lack of confidence some customers had in a woman advising them on how to use a product.

"I was grateful to work with some great men who knew I was capable," Sandy says. "But those conflicts made me more aware of

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**JOIN US ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 23 FOR THIS YEAR'S FLAMBOROUGH OPEN. EVERYONE WELCOME**



Photos courtesy of Wilf Arndt

ABOVE, LEFT: Among the participants at the 2011 Flamborough Open golf tournament – co-sponsored by the Flamborough Chamber of Commerce (FCC) and the Rotary Club of Waterdown and held at the Carlisle Golf & Country Club – was the team of Norm Read (Beckett Lowden Read), Tony Marchese, Frank Spiridoulias (Lord Byron Steak and Seafood House) and Sam Marchese. ABOVE, RIGHT: Rotarian Wendy Hickey (left), a member of the Flamborough Open organizing committee with fellow golfers (from left) Tom Gallagher and Nola and Dave Cartner.

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**Thank you to all who contributed to the success of the 2011 Flamborough Open**  
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 Boston Pizza  
 Brown Financial Security  
 Canada Life/Nicholas Landry  
 Carlisle Golf & Country Club  
 Dutch Mill Country Market  
 Gerry & Lena Aggas  
 Hickory Dickory Decks

JDJ Trailers  
 JC Financial  
 Kaneff Golf  
 Linda Marshall  
 Lord Byron Steak & Seafood House  
 NexGen Financial  
 Maria Demkowich  
 Wayne Marshall/Marshall  
 Truck & Trailer Repair  
 MPP Ted McMeekin  
 Permatex (Jeff Hillier)  
 Pot 'O' Gold Jewellery  
 Royal Coachman  
 The Keg Steakhouse & Bar  
 Turtle Jacks Muskoka Grill  
 Wendy A. Hickey

**TERRA – WHERE COLOUR LIVES**



# LAFARGE DONATES GRANITE FOR WAR MEMORIAL

*English monument honours contributions of Canadians who made the ultimate sacrifice in two world wars*

The following citation was shared when the Flamborough Chamber of Commerce (FCC) presented its *Community Service by a Company Award* to Lafarge Canada at the Outstanding Business Achievement (OBA) Awards gala at the Carlisle Golf & Country Club.

It's part of a huge multi-national conglomerate that has deep roots in the Flamborough community. For the past 30 years, it has been one of the more consistent and reliable members of the FCC. And tonight we are honoured to share another chapter of its story.

Last year, a monument was constructed at the National Memorial Arboretum in Airedale, England - the United Kingdom's 150-acre sanctuary and centre of remembrance of those who gave their lives in service of their country and all other men and women who served.

Inspiration for the Canadian memorial came when British Royal Air Force Flight Lieutenant Alfie Hall visited the National Memorial Arboretum in May 2010 and noticed the absence of a memorial to the various Canadian airforces that have served in the United Kingdom.

Lt. Hall's own 609 West Riding Squadron had 21 Canadian pilots serving alongside his own countrymen during World War II. As a result, Lt. Hall decided to spearhead a fundraising campaign for a monument commemorating the dedication and sacrifice of so many Canadians.

That's where Lafarge Canada comes in, when it was asked to donate Canadian granite for the project by Captain Jean Houde, Deputy Flight Commander of the 426 Squadron of the Canadian Forces.

"It was an honour and a pleasure to have been asked to participate in a small way to the construction of a memorial to Canadian airmen and airwomen," said Vice President of Aggregates for Lafarge Canada Bruce Semkowski. "On behalf of Lafarge Canada and all its employees, we thank Captain Houde for this opportunity."

Lafarge sourced the Sturgeon Falls

granite from one of its distributors - Gott Natural Stone of Feversham, which manufactured the granite - valued at over \$100,000 - for the perimeter circle, the maple leaf and the base for the centre monolith. The granite was transported to CFB Trenton and then delivered to England on C130J Hercules aircraft.

Lafarge S.A is a world leader in building materials, with top-ranking positions in its cement, aggregates, concrete and gypsum divisions. It has 76,000 employees in 78 countries and posted sales of 16.2 billion Euros in 2010. Lafarge North America and its subsidiaries - including Lafarge Canada - together constitute the largest diversified supplier of construction materials in the United States and Canada.

The Lafarge Group entered the global 'Dow Jones Sustainability Index' in 2010 in recognition of sustainable development actions. Lafarge places innovation at the heart of its priorities, working for sustainable construction and architectural creativity.

But all of which begs a simple question. What's the Flamborough connection?

The point man on the project was none other than Flamborough Chamber of Commerce (FCC) Past President Jamie Kleven. A former employee at the Greensville quarry, Jamie is currently the general manager of Franceschini Brothers in Mississauga, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Lafarge Canada.

On July 8, 2011, the monument was dedicated. Approximately 300 people attended - including our own Jamie Kleven - as well as His Royal Highness Prince Richard, Duke of Gloucester.

"It was an honour to be involved with this project and to attend the dedication service," said Jamie.

"I am proud to represent both Lafarge and Canada with such an important piece of history."

Ladies and gentlemen, for its continued contributions to so many communities, the Flamborough Chamber of Commerce is delighted to present its *Community Service by a Company Award* to Lafarge Canada.



Accepting the *Community Service by a Company Award* from the Flamborough Chamber of Commerce (FCC) at the 2012 *Outstanding Business Achievement* (OBA) awards gala on behalf of Lafarge Canada are (from left) Ron Graham, Jamie Kleven, Mal Wensierski and Peter Sanguineti.

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