



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Annual Westmont Community Awards Program**

### ***Westmont Recognizes Excellence in the Community***

**Westmont, Illinois, June 1, 2021** – The Westmont Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau (WCCTB) released a video spotlighting the Annual Westmont Community Awards. These awards are presented by the Westmont Chamber along with the Village of Westmont, Rotary Club of Westmont, Westmont Special Events Corporation and the Knights of Columbus. These organizations are collectively proud to recognize the individuals and businesses that help contribute to the growth and success of Westmont.

The Westmont Chamber Community Awards program is an annual tradition usually combined with a banquet dinner. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the awards were presented to the recipients, captured on video and in photos. This award program provides the opportunity to pause and recognize the many wonderful volunteers, activities and businesses that work to make Westmont a great place to live, work and visit.

During the awards program, the following special community recognitions and awards were presented:

- The 2020 Dick Busse Business-of-the-Year Award recognizes a Chamber business that has excelled in community service, business promotion, civic responsibility and contributions to the betterment of the Chamber and the Village of Westmont. The nominees for this award were: Dynamic Perception Dance Company and Urban Veterinary Associates, The Dick Busse Business-of-the-Year award was presented to Dynamic Perception Dance Company (766 Burr Oak Dr.) in recognition of their high level of community interaction and support.

- The 2020 Roger Westman President's Award recognizes an individual who has performed outstanding service to the Chamber and the Westmont Community. The Roger Westman President's award was presented to the Village of Westmont by Westmont Chamber Past President Steve Wozny.
- 2020 Westmont Citizen-of-the-Year Award recognizes individuals that reside in Westmont and that have demonstrated exceptional community involvement and leadership. Mayor Gunter noted "we have five wonderful people nominated for the Westmont Citizen of the Year that have made such a positive impact to the success of Westmont." The nominees for this award were: Ernest Chen, Wallace D. Vanburen, Tracey Valerio Spotts, Maggie South, and Ron Niemer. The Westmont Citizen-of-the-Year award was presented to Maggie South by Westmont Mayor Ron Gunter during a recent Village Board meeting.
- The 2020 Educator-of-the-Year Award recognizes a local educator for their outstanding efforts in their field and to the betterment of the Village of Westmont. This year the committee decided to recognize all teachers that have gone through this extraordinary time to re-invent the learning process in a COVID-19 environment. The Educators-of-the-Year award was presented to the teachers at:
  - Community Unit School District 201 (includes South School, Manning, Westmont High, Miller, Westmont Junior High)
  - Elementary District 58 (includes Kingsley, El Sierra, Lester, Fairmont, O'Neill, Herrick)
  - Maercker District 60 (includes Maercker, Holmes, Westview)
  - Elementary District 61 (includes Lace, Mark Delay, Eisenhower Jr.)
  - High School District 86 (includes Hinsdale South, Hinsdale Central)
  - High School District 99 (includes Downers Grove South, Downers Grove North)
  - Holy Trinity Catholic School
  - Bethel Early Learning Center
- The 2020 Westmont Public Servant Award recognizes a member of the municipal organizations who demonstrates exemplary public service to the community. The Westmont Public Service Award was presented to Fire Chief Steve Riley by Westmont Mayor Ron Gunter.

- The Rotary Club of Westmont Paul Harris Award was presented to Westmont Fire Department Captain Lynn Dralle, in recognition of her exceptional level of community service and volunteer work. The presenters were Rotary members Mayor Ron Gunter and Fire Chief Steve Riley.
- The 2020 Westmont Special Events Corporation (WSEC) “Jim Wright Making Memories Award” was presented to Pranav Viswanath by WSEC President Dave Gullotto and Board Member Larry McIntyre.
- The Knights of Columbus Grand Knight Brad Alexander presented the “In Service to One” Award to Bob Hoffman. The “Family of the Year” Award was presented to Hank, Linda and Jim Anzelone. The “Knight of the Year” Award was presented to Dave Ortman.
- The 2020 Westmont Community Improvement Award recognizes individual business property owners and businesses that have improved the appearance of their property. Community Improvement Awards for 2020 were presented to:
  - ChiroCare Clinic Wellness Center, 693 N. Cass Avenue
  - CrossFit Salire, 263 W 61<sup>st</sup> Street
  - FMC Natatorium at Ty Warner Park, 275 Plaza Drive
  - GoPolar Cryotherapy, 230 N Cass Avenue
  - Laurel BMW of Westmont, 430 E Ogden Avenue
  - McGrath Lexus of Westmont, 500 E Ogden Avenue
  - Raising Cane’s Chicken Fingers, 60 W 63<sup>rd</sup> St

- The 2021 Westmont Dining Reader’s Choice Awards is a program co-sponsored by the Westmont Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau and Shaw Media. The public was able to vote for their favorite restaurants, dining experiences and food during the time period of March 11 – March 25, 2021. There were 30 categories provided to consider. The winners were:

Best Asian Cuisine – China Chef

Best Bakery – The Sweet & Savory Spot (*3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row*)

Best Banquet Space – Zazzo’s Pizza & Catering (*3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row*)

Best BBQ – Uncle Bub’s BBQ (*6<sup>th</sup> year in a row*)

Best Breakfast – Citrus Diner (*5<sup>th</sup> year in a row*)

Best Brewery – Whiskey Hill (*2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row*)

Best Burger – DJ’s Sport Bar and Grill *(6<sup>th</sup> year in a row)*

Best Catering – Zazzo’s Pizza & Catering *(2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row)*

Best Coffee Shop – Brewed Awakening *(6<sup>th</sup> year in a row)*

Best Drinking Establishment – DJ’s Sports Bar and Grill *(5<sup>th</sup> year in a row)*

Best Family Friendly Restaurant – Zazzo’s Pizza & Catering *(2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row)*

Best Fast Casual – Uncle Bub’s BBQ & Catering *(3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row)*

Best Fast Food – Margie’s Beef & Gyros

Best Fine Dining – Pappadeaux Seafood Kitchen

Best Full Service Restaurant & Bar – Zazzo’s Pizza & Catering *(3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row)*

Best Holiday Brunch – Hilton Chicago/Oak Brook Hills Resort & Conference Center  
*(2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row)*

Best Ice Cream – Tasty Treat *(6<sup>th</sup> year in a row)*

Best Indian Cuisine Restaurant - Shree Restaurant *(3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row)*

Best Italian Cuisine – Zazzo’s Pizza & Catering *(3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row)*

Best for Live Entertainment – Johnny’s Blitz Bar & Grill *(3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row)*

Best Lunch – DJ’s Sports Bar & Grill *(2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row)*

Best Mediterranean – Taste Greek Street Food *(2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row)*

Best Mexican Restaurant – Las Palmas Restaurant *(3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row)*

Best for Outdoor Dining – J. Flemings Absolutely Delicious *(6<sup>th</sup> year in a row)*

Best Pizza – Zazzo’s Pizza & Catering *(4<sup>th</sup> year in a row)*

Best Salad – DJ’s Sports Bar and Grill

Best Sandwich – DJ’s Sports Bar and Grill *(4<sup>th</sup> year in a row)*

Best Seafood – Pappadeaux Seafood Kitchen (6<sup>th</sup> year in a row)

Best Sushi – Sushi House (6<sup>th</sup> year in a row)

Best Video Gaming – DJ's Sports Bar & Grill (6<sup>th</sup> year in a row)

WCCTB President Alison Clemens remarked “Congratulations to all the nominees for everything you do to make Westmont a wonderful place to live and work and for being the best community for volunteerism in Illinois!”

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The Westmont Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau, (WCCTB), is the voice of the Westmont Business community and provides the platform for our business community to work in support of enhanced economic development and growth for our Westmont Area. Learn more about WCCTB at [www.westmontchamber.com](http://www.westmontchamber.com).

*Pictured from left to right, Co-Chair, Westmont Chamber of Commerce Education & Awards Committee Joseph Moffa, 2020 Dick Busse Business-of-the-Year Award recipient Jessica Garrett, owner, Dynamic Perception Dance Company, Co-Chair, Westmont Chamber Education & Awards Committee Kevin Carey*



*Pictured from left to right, 2020 Westmont Citizen-of-the-Year Award recipient Maggie South, Mayor Ron Gunter*



*Pictured from left to right, representing the 2020 Roger Westman President's Award recipient, Westmont Village Manager Stephen May, Mayor Ron Gunter, Chamber of Commerce Past President Steve Wozny*



*Pictured from left to right, Village Manager Stephen May, 2020 Westmont Public Servant Award recipient Fire Chief Steve Riley, Mayor Ron Gunter*



*Pictured from left to right, Westmont Special Events Corporation President Dave Gullotto, “Jim Wright Making Memories Award” recipient Pranav Viswanath, Srividhya Viswanath, Village of Westmont Communications Director Larry McIntyre, Westmont Special Events Corporation Executive Director Kristina Kaniauskaite*



*Pictured from left to right, Fire Chief Steve Riley, 2020 Rotary Club of Westmont Paul Harris Award recipient Westmont Fire Department Captain Lynn Dralle, Mayor Ron Gunter*



*Pictured from left to right, Knights of Columbus “In Service to One, In Service to All” Award recipient Bob Hoffman, Grand Knight Brad Alexander*





*Pictured from left to right, Knights of Columbus “Knight of the Year” Award recipient Knight Dave Ortman, Grand Knight Brad Alexander*



*Pictured from left to right, Knights of Columbus “Family of the Year” Award recipients Knight Hank Anzelone, Linda Anzelone and Jim Anzelone, Grand Knight Brad Alexander*



*Pictured from left to right, 2020 Westmont Community Improvement Award recipient Dr. Angie Skokos, owner, ChiroCare Clinic Wellness Center, WCCTB Executive Director Larry Forsberg*



*Pictured from left to right, WCCTB Executive Director Larry Forsberg, 2020 Westmont Community Improvement Award recipient Melissa Donoghue, owner, CrossFit Salire*



*Pictured from left to right, 2020 Westmont Community Improvement Award recipient Mary Anne Kaufman, owner, FMC Natatorium at Ty Warner Park, WCCTB Executive Director Larry Forsberg,*



*Pictured from left to right, WCCTB Executive Director Larry Forsberg, 2020 Westmont Community Improvement Award recipient Joanna Gal, owner, GoPolar Cryotherapy*



*Pictured from left to right, WCCTB Executive Director Larry Forssberg, 2020 Westmont Community Improvement Award recipient Laurel BMW of Westmont General Manager Christopher Creedon*



*Pictured from left to right, 2020 Westmont Community Improvement Award recipient Lexus of Westmont General Manager Jimmy Tran, WCCTB Executive Director Larry Forssberg*



*Pictured from left to right, 2020 Westmont Community Improvement Award recipient Westmont Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers General Manager Yesenia Diego, Education & Awards Committee Co-Chair Joseph Moffa*



*Pictured below 2020 Educator-of-the-Year Award recipients from Bethel Early Learning Center with Education & Awards Committee Co-Chair Joe Moffa*



*Pictured below Superintendent of Community High School District 99 Dr. Hank Thiele accepting the 2020 Educator-of-the-Year Award on behalf of teachers in CSD 99 with Education & Awards Committee Co-Chair Joe Moffa*



*Pictured below Superintendent of CUSD 201 Kevin Carey accepting the 2020 Educator-of-the-Year Award on behalf of teachers in CUSD 201 with Education & Awards Committee Co-Chair Joe Moffa*



*Pictured below Superintendent of Darien Public Schools District #61 Dr. Robert Langman accepting the 2020 Educator-of-the-Year Award on behalf of teachers in District #61 with Education & Awards Committee Co-Chair Joe Moffa*



*Pictured below Superintendent of Downers Grove Grade School District 58 Dr. Kevin Russell accepting the 2020 Educator-of-the-Year Award on behalf of teachers in District 58 with Education & Awards Committee Co-Chair Joe Moffa*



*Pictured below Superintendent of High School District 86 Tammy Prentiss accepting the 2020 Educator-of-the-Year Award on behalf of teachers in High School District 86 with Education & Awards Committee Co-Chair Joe Moffa*



*Pictured below Superintendent of Maercker District 60 Sean Nugent accepting the 2020 Educator-of-the-Year Award on behalf of teachers in Maercker District 60 with Education & Awards Committee Co-Chair Joe Moffa*





*Pictured below 2020 Educator-of-the-Year Award recipients from Holy Trinity Catholic School with Education & Awards Committee Co-Chair Joe Moffa*



Award photos can be retrieved at no charge at the Westmont Chamber Photo Gallery at <https://westmontchamber.smugmug.com/2021/2020-Westmont-Community-Awards/>