



Publisher's Notebook

Matt Winters • June 2022

We join in congratulating business award winners

One of the greatest pleasures of having a news source like Coast River Business Journal is being able to help businesses. We celebrate the success and bravery of entrepreneurs.

Coming out of the most challenging periods in recent history, it is gratifying to see many people and businesses that we've featured being honored as the latest recipients of annual awards from Clatsop Economic Development Resources and the Pacific County Economic Development Council.

You'll find comprehensive reports elsewhere in this edition, but I also want to make a few personal observations:

Holly McHone was recognized as the year's north Clatsop County business leader. I'm biased since she designed my wedding ring, but this jeweler is a model of creativity and good business practices. And I've enjoyed my delicious meals at Monteal-

ban Mexican Restaurant. It always brings to mind the ancient Oaxacan archaeological ruins of Monte Alban where I've spent fascinating hours.

Lucy's Books is correctly regarded as a model independent book seller and was honored for its premier customer service. Its Pacific County corollary is Time Enough Books at the Port of Ilwaco. We all should support these pillars of literacy and community involvement.

I first enjoyed Mo's Restaurant's famous clam chowder during family summer vacations in Newport when Mo herself was still alive and well. It was big news when the Astoria branch opened along the waterfront and it's good to see it honored as the large business with the most notable positive impact on the community.

Skip Hauke, who the new Spirit of Business Community Supporter award is named after, was a

wonderful and bighearted man whom I know we all miss. He co-founded CEDR, which is a model organization of its kind, bringing first-rate business education to Clatsop County's private enterprises.

Bank of the Pacific was named the Pacific County Economic Development Council's Business of the Year for its half century of service. I can't think of the bank without remembering its longtime chairman of the board, Sid Snyder, who I and thousands of others considered to be a close friend. He and other founders saw a need for a locally owned bank that would be conscious of the particular needs of businesses and families in Pacific County. It's a genuine success story, having now expanded elsewhere in western Washington and in Clatsop County.

The Economic Development Council also singled out three individuals for outstanding achievements and leadership: Kathy Spoor and Katie

Lindstrom with Pacific County government and Guy Glenn Jr., until lately manager of the ports of Ilwaco and Chinook. Each is richly deserving of recognition. Spoor and Lindstrom led various aspects of pandemic response with dedication and professionalism.

The Economic Development Council honored the Chinook Indian Nation for emerging leadership. The tribe has been a strong advocate for our area — most especially for Chinook people — for decades. It is stepping up in ways that bode well for the future.

Pacific County business groups also presented top annual awards. All are laudible, but I take particular note of the Ocean Park Area Chamber of Commerce's nomination of its entire membership. Ocean Park's mutual care and support during the darkest days of the pandemic were truly inspirational.

I love the fact that all this year's honorees are standing tall and proud. They are a big part of why our area should feel optimistic about the future.



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