



ABOVE: Members of the North Coast's business community gathered for the annual CEDR awards held at Clatsop Community College. **LEFT:** State Rep. Suzanne Weber spoke at the awards ceremony.



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Standout businesses large and small on the North Coast were recently recognized at this year's Clatsop Economic Development Resources awards.

Last month, CEDR gathered business owners, community leaders and local elected officials in-person for the first time since 2019. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, the event was canceled in

2020 and held virtually last year.

Kevin Leahy, the executive director of CEDR and the Clatsop Community College Small Business Development Center, said he was happy to see this year's event bring together a variety of businesses from the community.

"I would say that's kind of our secret sauce. We're not just relying on one thing, like tourism," Leahy said. "We have so much going on here with natural resources, and hospitality, and retail and health care, that's what really makes things special

here."

The awards began after a speech from state Rep. Suzanne Weber, a former mayor of Tillamook who is running for state Senate.

The first award of the night went to Gaetano's Market and Deli, which was awarded business leader of the year in the new business category. The Italian market has become a popular spot in downtown Astoria since opening last year.

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