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Citizens: Chamber and cities bestow annual awards

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stand at Robinson Community Park and serves on the board of Warrenton Kids Inc. This year, Debbie Little and other auxiliary members took on the Community Thanksgiving meal at Warrenton Community Center.

"I knew Bert was getting the award because it was my job to get him there," Debbie Little said. "I had no idea I was even nominated. We're both surprised and honored."

Seeing the fruits of their labor has been satisfying.

"To actually see that statue go up before some of the people who started it 25 years ago passed away, makes it all worth it," she said.

The George Award, given to Astoria's citizens of the year, was presented to retired school teacher Ray Merritt and restaurateur Jennifer Holen.

Merritt serves on the Astoria Downtown Historic District Association board and works

Ford Award winners

2000: Diane Collier, Patricia Williams
2005: Pat O'Grady
2006: Don Patterson
2007: Krista Bingham
2008: Gillian Maggert
2009: Warrenton Volunteer Firefighter's Association
2010: Jim Scheller, Jann Luesse
2011: Barbara Balensifer, Martin Nygaard
2012: Marlin Martin
2013: Chuck and Sharon Andersen, Leroy and Muriel Dunn
2014: Carl and Dianne Burkhart
2015: Judy and Gary Sivley
2016: Darlene Warren
2017: Gary Dick

tirelessly making street improvements, lighting upgrades and rehabilitating old buildings, Astoria Mayor Bruce Jones said in making the presentation.

Merritt records all Astoria City Council meetings and other events and uploads them to

the Coast Community Radio website. He has spent three decades on the KMUN board and supervises planning for the annual Fisher Poets Gathering.

Sen. Betsy Johnson, who presented the award to Holen, described her as a huge advocate and champion of local support agencies. She's on the staff of United Way of Clatsop County, volunteers for Iron Chef Goes Coastal and developed the Pacific Northwest Brew Cup.

The Chamber Ambassadors also presented an award to a local business that has gone above and beyond serving the local community, Lewis & Clark Golf & RV Park.

"As the Ambassadors, we get an up-close and personal view of the chamber membership," Ambassador President Judy Curnow said. "Year after year, the business we're honoring tonight has provided golf carts for chamber events ... and hosts our annual barbecue each year."

Welders: Career training center gets a boost

Continued from Page 1

ing with current industry tools, which will allow students ... to experience valuable career-connected learning," Jannusch said.

To determine industry

needs, the school district consulted with community college CTE and high school instructors, as well as industry partners to provide the most current information about welders, tools and methods.

"I liked the personal approach I received from Ocean View and I'm relieved to think everything will be in order when the time comes."

—from Sherryan Reische



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"These partnerships are very important to providing students with the best learning opportunities that have career connections, as well as connections to post-secondary programs, such as with Clatsop Community College's MERTS (Marine and Environmental Research and Training Station) campus."

MIG (metal inert gas) welding is a process that involves feeding metal wire into a weld, which acts as a filler to join the two metal objects. TIG (tungsten inert gas) welding uses a tungsten electrode to run a current through the metals being joined.

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