

Wantagh Chamber Installs New Officers

The Wantagh Chamber of Commerce celebrated its annual installation on Feb. 11 at La Piazza in Merrick.

Several awards were handed out, including citizen of the year, which went to Pastor Ron Garner of Wantagh Memorial Congregational Church. He spent 10 years in England before relocating with his wife to Wantagh 4 1/2 years ago.

"I owe it all to my congregation because they're a mission oriented church," Garner said. "During Sandy, we opened our church as a distribution center. We have a vegetable garden, and we donate food to the Freeport Food Pantry."

"We enjoy Wantagh," Garner added, saying that it was an adjustment when he and his wife first moved from England. "We're very happy here."

The National Council of Chambers businessperson of the year was Chris Brown, who's owned Mid Island Medical Supply in Wantagh since 1995.

"The award means a lot to me," Brown said. "It recognizes the work I did with the chamber."

The organization of the year was the Wantagh Junior Chamber, and President Kenny Mintz, a junior at Wantagh High School, said the accolades mean a lot.

"This is a really big award," Mintz said. "Since I joined in ninth grade, we've never gotten an award like this. It just inspires us to do more in the community."

Other honors included the beautification award, where Gateway Plaza was spotlighted, and the president's award was given to Gary Sirota of Brands Cycle and Fitness. Lastly, Gregg Markin of Andy's Luggage & Leather Goods received the lifetime achievement award.

The 2014 chamber officers include President Denise Langweber, First Vice President Floyd Earl, Second Vice President Cynthia Smith, Recording Secretary Chris Brown, Corresponding Secretary Paulie Briggs and Financial Secretary John Mahoney. The trustees are Joseph Anderson, Gregg Markin, Ira Reiter, Dr. Barbara Rosinsky and Frank Maola.

Langweber said the chamber is responsible for the spring fun hunt, holiday lighting and snowflakes. This year, the inaugural Wantagh fundraising bar crawl will take place, she added.

"We're looking to continue building our membership," Langweber said. "We're also looking to get our members to be more actively involved in the community."



WANTAGH/SEAFORD CITIZEN — February 20, 2014

PASTOR RON GARNER of Wantagh Memorial Congregational Church receives citizen of the year honors.

Herald photo by Michael Ganci

citizenlibraries

Wantagh library

Winter Story Time
Camera Club

1:15 p.m.
8 p.m.

Reference Desk.

Ongoing

The Wantagh Public Library offers

Thursday, February 27

Monday February 24

Landmarks and Historic Sites of Long

the career of comedic actress Lucille Ball, from her humble beginnings in Jamestown, NY to her rise to stardom in Hollywood and her later television career.