

PRESS RELEASE

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NEWARK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

“EIGHT LOCAL BUSINESSES & BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS SHARE THE LIMELIGHT AS RECIPIENTS OF THE 2018 NEWARK CHAMBER BUSINESS AWARDS”.

The Newark Chamber of Commerce welcomed an enthusiastic crowd of local business and government leaders to their annual **Celebration of Business Awards Luncheon** held on November 8th. This annual event, which honors and recognizes outstanding business people and leading business organizations, featured **an informative keynote address by Mayor Alan L. Nagy highlighting the changing landscape and carefully-planned growth and development of our community of Newark**. Then, the crowd enthusiastically embraced and applauded the recipients - all successful examples of business, organizational, and professional achievement.

COMMUNITY PARTNER - awarded this year to the **Newark Rotary Club**, with a decades-long history of philanthropy and support of education, community and human services initiatives, partnering long-term with many worthy organizations over the years, and among them, the Newark Chamber. These Rotarians give generously of their time, and fundraise endlessly for good.

LARGE BUSINESS – DEVRY UNIVERSITY, since opening their campus in Newark, has become a partner with many organizations in the community, showing excellence in community relations and collaboration. Proven excellence in business achievement, job stability and excellence in employee relations also exhibit their commitment to using best business and employment practices in pursuit of their educational mission.

SMALL BUSINESS - awarded to **DAS BREW, INC.** an entrepreneurial small brewery owned and operated by Jan Schutze and his wife, Priscilla LaRocca. Supportive Chamber members of the communities they serve, Das Brew was established in 2010 and has become recognized throughout the Tri-Cities, not just for their world-class German beer, but for admirably living their mission: to operate an environmentally responsible craft brewery, and give back to the community while providing an employee-friendly workplace.

CLEAN & GREEN - awarded to **LION NEWARK SHOPPING CENTER**, a vibrant center, comprised of restaurants, retail shops, health related professionals and educational businesses, some navigating

unfamiliar cultural, language and regulatory challenges. The center's ownership takes a very personal and hands on approach to helping their tenants learn to effectively market and grow their businesses in Newark. Staying on top of regulatory and environmental objectives is part of that. This award was based on a concerted effort this past year, particularly as it pertains to organic waste compliance. Mounted to fully educate the "why" of compliance, and the "how" of effectively diverting food waste from landfill to compost goals, this effort resulted in a significantly larger percentage of early adopters among the tenants, as compared to similar centers. Total participation at a fast pace is anticipated as the effort continues.

SUSTAINING MEMBER of the NEWARK CHAMBER - awarded to the **CITY OF NEWARK**. A member of the Chamber for over 25 years, the commitment to serve and strengthen the community, and the business community in Newark has been shown over and over through the years by countless city employees and elected leaders. Their vision has been shared, welcomed and appreciated, often resulting in the implementation of programs and initiatives made better by the sharing. This kind of collaboration has been invaluable, substantially moving the achievement of the Chamber's objectives forward.

PARTNERING FOR SUCCESS – MARIA "SUCY" COLLAZO, owner/partner of Mexico Tortilla Factory, awarded to a business professional whose talent and ability to identify, connect and then nurture partnerships and collaborative ventures between individuals and organizations is over the top, creating measurable results for the parties involved. In that role, SUCY is exceptional, being responsible for uncounted connections between individuals and businesses that have resulted in great success over the years for those connected, and for the community in which "partnering for success" is her mantra.

OUTSTANDING SERVICE to the NEWARK CHAMBER -awarded to **PREETI KUMAR, DDS**, principal and owner of **Cedar Dental Care**. Dr. Kumar has been a successful health care professional in Fremont and Newark for nearly 12 years. She jumped in with both feet and total dedication when she joined the Newark Chamber, and since that time, her personal contributions of time, expertise, creativity and commitment on behalf of the Chamber have significantly enhanced the Newark Chamber of Commerce, and will continue when she assumes the board chairmanship in 2019-20.

DISTINGUISHED BUSINESS LEADER OF THE YEAR - awarded to **FALLON TRAN, Lion Newark Shopping Center**. This award is given to a professional who demonstrates an excellent level of business standards and ethics, as well as providing leadership, vision and community support. Fallon has taken on her challenges with enthusiasm, sharing them not only with the tenants in her center, but actively engaging

in and leading business initiatives mounted through the Newark Chamber, that will bring value and support to our restaurant and catering businesses, and creating new connections and new business for them with our corporate Newark businesses. Working with a small team of similarly creative and highly professional individuals, she has helped move these forward quickly. She is unstoppable, working on a variety of fronts to strengthen small businesses in Newark, a place she unabashedly loves.

Chamber CEO Valerie Boyle, noted that each year the Chamber is honored to recognize achievement of individuals and organizations like these. One such example, the **TRI-CITY VOICE**, which truly does "tell the stories of the community," was the recipient of the **2016 COMMUNITY PARTNER award**.

Congratulations on behalf of the Newark Chamber to all our honorees!

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