

Numerous Awards Given By The Citizens Council at Council's Annual Meeting

LACONIA More than 125 friends were on hand at the congratulate recipients of recent Annual Meeting of the on Children and Families.



Lakes Region residents and their Expo Center in Lakeport to numerous awards presented at the Belknap County Citizens Council

Winner of the prestigious Annette P Schmitt Unsung Hero Award was Paul Plimpton of Belmont. The annual Schmitt Award honors the life of Annette P Schmitt by acknowledging individuals who have worked and volunteered on behalf of children and families in Belknap County. Presented by Judge Willard Martin, this award recognized Plimpton for his many years as a mentor and sports coach of youth in the Lakes Region.

Judge Martin, a Juvenile Judge with the Laconia District Court, described Plimpton as someone who has been “quietly active and very involved in his community for more than 20 years”. Paul who has been instrumental in developing and maintaining sports activities for youth is also known for his many “sideline chats” with kids and parents, and his care and concern for all youth, rather than just those that excel as athletes. Plimpton received an engraved, decorative clock and his name has been added to the list of previous winners on the award plaque that hangs in the Council offices.

Alida Millham, Council Chair, presented Citizens Council Partner and Associate Awards to specific organizations and individuals for their contributions to the work of the Council during 2003. Included were Carol Wallace of Alton; Pam Washburn of Tilton; John Cook of Tuftonboro; Christina and David Miles from Laconia; Laurie Michalewicz from Laconia; Holly

DeWald, Director of the Youth Services Bureau; Armand Maheux, Officer Al Lessard, and Chief Tom Oetinger from the Laconia Police Department; Rosemary Shannon from the NH Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse, Prevention, and Recovery; Brian Loanes and John Egan from the Belknap County Juvenile Restorative Justice Program; Jay Apicelli, JPPO Supervisor at the Laconia District Office; and Sheriff Dan Collis from the Belknap County Sheriffs Department.

The dinner meeting, co-sponsored by UpStream, Reclaiming Futures NH, and the Center for Civic Engagement, concluded with the keynote address from Laura Nissen, PhD, Director of the national Reclaiming Futures Project. Reclaiming Futures is a Robert Wood Johnson initiative to improve outcomes for teenagers caught in the cycle of drugs, alcohol, and crime.

The Belknap County Citizens Council on Children and Families is a County Department charged with planning, advocacy, networking, and resource development to support a positive environment for children and families in Belknap County. Council members come from every community in Belknap County. For more information on the Citizens Council, visit www.bccj.org or call 528-3185

PHOTO GALLERY FOLLOWS



PHOTO GALLERY FROM THE 2004 ANNUAL MEETING



Renee Hill (L) Director of the C.O.R.E. Program with the Interlakes School District, enjoys a light-hearted moment with Alan Robichaud, Executive Director of the Belknap County Citizens Council on Children and Families.



Deb Williams (L), a parent volunteer and the winner of the Annette P Schmitt UnSung Hero Award in 2003, and Marie Ross, Assistant Superintendent of the Laconia School District are active members of several of the Citizens Council committees.

Shirley Glines, Director of the Project E.X.T.R.A. After School Program with the Laconia School District, shares information about this project during exhibit time, held before the Council's Annual Meeting.



Kent Warner (L) and Council Member Peter Michaud, both from Center Harbor, visit with Dick Stuart of Laconia during the networking time.



Center Harbor residents, Council Member Mary Alice Warner and her husband Kent Warner, visit a few of the exhibits during the networking time.





As the keynote speaker, Laura Nissen, Director of the national Robert Wood Johnson "Reclaiming Futures" Project, shared information on helping youths avoid the cycle of drugs, alcohol, and crime.



Judge Willard Martin (L), a Juvenile Judge in Belknap County, enjoys dinner and conversation with Council Members, Council committee members, and friends.



PAUL PLIMPTON, (2nd from R in front row) is the 2004 winner of the prestigious Annette Schmitt UnSung Hero Award. Members of his family on hand to congratulate him include (front row L-R) Lois Plimpton, his mother; his wife Doreen; and Judge Willard Martin who presented this award. Second row are his brothers Stephen (far L), Jonathan (far R) and Paul and Doreen's daughter, Cassie.



Also receiving recognition for their role in furthering the mission of the Citizens Council are (L-R) Armand Maheux of Laconia; Rosemary Shannon of the NH Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention and Recovery; Council Chair, Alida Millham who presented the certificates; Holly DeWald, Director of Youth Services Bureau that serves Belknap County; Brian Loanes Director of the Belknap County Juvenile Restorative Justice Program; and John Egan, also with the County's Restorative Justice Program.



Receiving certificates of appreciation for their “cooperative spirit” and “able assistance” with Council projects were (L-R) Carol Wallace of Alton and Pam Washburn of Tilton. Council Chair, Alida Millham of Gilford, presented these awards.



Alida Millham, Council Chair, presents certificates to representatives of County and community organizations and departments that were significant partners for the Council during 2003. Shown L-R are Millham, Holly DeWald for the Youth Services Bureau, and Chief Tom Oetinger with Officer Al Lessard of the Laconia Police Department.