

## Springville Chamber of Commerce presents 2020 awards



*Photo by Max Borsuk*

**The Springville Volunteer Fire Company accepts its Non-Profit of the Year award from Springville Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Debbie Hintz.**

### **Max Borsuk Editor**

While the Springville Area Chamber of Commerce was not able to host its annual gala this year due to COVID-19, award winners for 2020 were presented their awards at a special ceremony at the Springville Country Club on Thursday, Oct. 22.

Award winners included Helen Brogan, President's Award; CH2M HILL BWXT West Valley (CHBWV), Business of the Year; The Meat Shoppe, Small Business of the Year; Springville Volunteer Fire Company, Non-Profit of the Year; Dennis Dains, Citizen of the Year; David Sullivan, Community Service Award; Max Borsuk, Joe Rumfola D.D.S and Liesle Neureuther, Young Professionals Award; Gentner Commission Market and Lawrence's Tavern, Longevity Award.

Along with the awards, proclamations were given to all winners from Erie County Legislator John Mills and Senator Patrick Gallivan's office. All 2020 winners will also be recognized along with 2021 winners at next year's awards gala.

Brogan was presented the President's Award for her many contributions to the community over the years, her years of dedication to the Springville business community and dedication to the Springville Area Chamber of Commerce. She and her husband David Brogan moved to Springville in 1977. She was the longtime owner of Concord Land Company and recently retired from the business. Brogan also joined the Springville Chamber in 1978, serving on the board of directors and as secretary.

The CH2M HILL BWXT West Valley team is comprised of Jacobs, BWX Technologies Services Group and the Environmental Chemical Corporation and began decommissioning work at the **West Valley Demonstration Project** on Aug. 29, 2011. CH2M HILL BWXT West Valley, LLC manages and operates the project under contract with the United States Department of Energy. In 2019, CHBWV also collected 11,000 pounds of food in its annual food drive, made \$22,865 in United Way donations, made \$12,000 in community donations, made \$90,000 in community supply funding for project support services and volunteered for the United Way of Buffalo and Erie County's Business Meets Community at the Springville Youth Incorporated facility.

Ted Martin opened the Meat Shoppe in Springville in 1983. Since then, Martin, his wife Kathy and his daughters Amanda and Erin have provided residents with a large variety of customs cuts of meats, along with local meat, fish, poultry and dairy products. Martin prepares cuts of meat to order, has prepared cooked roast beef for customers and has served many restaurants and group homes. Throughout the years, Martin said he enjoys seeing his regular customers, has gotten to know many people in the community with his business and has learned the favorite orders for many of his customers when they come in the door.

The Springville Volunteer Fire Company was founded in 1834. From fire calls to emergency medical calls, community wide disaster events and emergency preparedness events, the fire company continues to show their civic pride and responsibility in the village. Over the years, the fire company also built and maintains Fireman's Park, visits nursing homes at Christmas, visits The Children's League, participates in the Prom Promise at the high school, promotes Springville in the Fireman's Parade in Lancaster, provides car seat checks, sponsors fire protection programs and raises money to donate firefighting equipment to the village for use in emergency response as a Village Department.

Dains has followed in his family tradition and has served with the Springville Volunteer Fire Company for 40 years, with 20 years as chief. Along with serving with the fire company, Dains was also the Concord Highway Superintendent for 24 years and has served as a dispatcher in the Village of Springville Control. Dains remembers working with many of the large fires in Springville over the years and has always loved the "one big happy family" atmosphere among fire companies and volunteers. As highway superintendent, Dains developed a maintenance program to maintain town roads, began a replacement schedule for the town's heavy equipment, was involved in the Erie County Superintendent's Association and lobbied in the State Capital for increased funding for highways. Dains is still employed as a dispatcher for the village and continues to help coordinate communication among first responders.

Sullivan has been a lifelong resident of Springville, has worked for the Springville Water Department for 32 years, has performed musically for most of his life with his family in The Reflections and in the Springville Community Jazz Band and has been giving alto saxophone lessons for 38 years. Over the years, he has helped with various Boy Scout Eagle Projects, performed musical benefits for needy individuals, performed musical tributes at funerals and organized a work crew that installed a water well and upgraded electrical service at Fairview Cemetery. As a Village Water Division lead man, Sullivan was called out to homes and businesses with problems and always listened to customers, advised customers and helped get a permanent fix to whatever problem he and his crew were called out to.

Borsuk has worked at the Springville Journal for over six years, moving up from part-time reporter to staff reporter to editor. Covering events, board meetings and stories from people all across the village, Borsuk appreciates the award and plans to continue helping spread local news for years to come.

Rumfola was born and raised in Springville and opened his practice in 2003. He and his wife Jennifer designed the new facility currently on Waverly Street to help give the best care to his patients. He was the salutatorian of his

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dental school class, works as the Director of the Advanced Education in General Dentistry residency program at the UB School of Dental Medicine, is a Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Restorative Dentistry, completed SUNY's Practical Esthetic Dentistry Continuum and has been published multiple times in the NYS Dental Journal.

Neureuther established Lulu Belle's Gift Shop in Springville seven years ago. A resident of East Concord, she and her husband Brodie moved to the Springville area to raise their family. From the jewelry to clothing, lotions, knickknacks and other products available at Lulu Belle's, Neureuther said all of her products have meaning and she loves the small town atmosphere as a great place to live and work.

The Gentner Commission Market was established in 1939 by Raymond Gentner and Norbert Kessler as a livestock auction. Damon Gentner keeps the third generation business open every Wednesday and continues to offer its open air market and auction, making Springville a destination for famers, residents and shoppers year round.

Lawrence's Tavern at 10 N. Buffalo St. is celebrating its 80th anniversary this year. Not only is Lawrence's the oldest business in the Village of Springville, it also holds the oldest liquor license in Erie County. Started by Larry Zielinski's parents in 1939, Larry and his son Mike have operated the tavern since 1996 and attribute the longevity to the plan of his mother and father. Over the last several years, Lawrence's has also made annual donations averaging around \$2,200 to youth organizations and patrons have donated money at holiday time to buy turkeys for local needy families.



*Photo by Max Borsuk*

**Dennis Dains accepts his Citizen of the Year Award.**



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**Helen Brogan receives the President's Award.**

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**The Meat Shoppe received the Small Business of the Year Award.**



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