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Chamber hands out 10 golden shovel award

CCM Staff report

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Ten area businesses were presented Golden Shovel awards during the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce annual banquet April 18 at Atwood Yacht Club. Golden Shovel award winners were chosen for the capital improvements made to their businesses which total \$65,941,808.

"That number is staggering and it means there are great things happening in our community, despite what I hear people say," Amy Rutledge, chamber director stated. "This year's winners will receive actual golden shovels. They were purchased from Myers Tin Shop and coated and engraved by Small Batch Honey Company."

Winners included:

- Atwood Lake Boats: Owned and operated by Brian and Chris Valot, the business celebrated 55 years in business in 2018. They have two locations on Atwood Lake providing boat sales, service, boat rental, charter boat cruises, docking, boating accessories, gift items and Atwood logo clothing. They employ 25 people full-time and 10 seasonal employees. An extra 2,400 square feet was added to the service center. A total of 3,600 square feet was heated and improved in the maintenance building. This included a new warehouse area and three additional work bays for the service and maintenance team. Total cost was \$198,000.
- Atwood Lake Park (Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District: Construction included work on a new camp area (areas A and G). The project included: 106 full utility hookup campsites with concrete pads, a new restroom/shower house building, two picnic shelters, a 4-unit dump station, basketball, pickleball and sand volleyball courts, event parking area and landscaping. Total cost was \$5,857,297.
- Camp Roosevelt Firebird: A residential summer camp, purchased by Joe Mendes in 2016. The project included a new 156x34-foot metal roof and 70x20-foot rubber roof, new drainage system and a backup generator for the well system. Total cost was \$68,000.
- Carroll County Agricultural Society: In 2018, with support from American Electric Power (AEP), the old race horse barns were torn down and a new barn constructed prior to the 2018 fair. Cost was \$195,220.
- Carroll County Energy, LLC: The 700-megawatt combined-cycle natural gas electric generation facility was completed in 2017. Located near SEP's 345 kV electric transmission lines and Kinder Morgan's Tennessee Gas Pipeline system, the facility is selling energy, capacity and ancillary electricity for approximately 750,000 homes. EthosEnergy Power Plant Services is operating the facility and Advanced Power, construction manager, remains as asset manager during commercial operations. A black start diesel engine facility was constructed on site during 2018 and commissioned in December. The \$17 million investment will allow the facility to assist in repowering AEP high voltage transmission system in the event of a blackout condition. The diesel engines are used to start one of the combustible turbines which



Representatives of Carroll County Chamber of Commerce Golden Shovel winning businesses are shown above.

They include (front from left): Aaron Stump and Adria Bergeron, MWCD; Britney Hawkins, Amber Costerlla and Chris Coe, PNC; Dr. Dave Quattrochi, Carrollton Schools; Chris Day and Merritt Brown, Carroll County Energy; and Ollie Scott and Dawn Faulk, Carroll Golden Age Retreat. Row two: Darla Shaw, PNC; and Wendy Davis, Ag Society. Row three: Jamie Bibo-Belaney, PNC; Tait Carter, KIKO; Heidi Daniels, Griffiths Greenhouse; and Jessica Ujcich, Ag Society. Back row: Joe Mendes, Camp Roosevelt Firebird; Wendy Gotschall and Rose Seck, Carrollton Schools; and Eric Koren, Atwood Lake Boats.

will reconnect to the AEP grid in a full power loss condition. Construction of the new facility employed more than 100 local craft labor and project management throughout the year-long duration.

- Carroll Golden Age Retreat: A 50-bed rest home for the elderly and disabled providing 24/7 nursing care, the facility is owned and operated by Carroll County Commissioners for 180 years. A 3,200 square foot garage/storage building was constructed to house vehicles and medical equipment and supplies. The main building storage area is now being used for patient care and activities. Cost of the project was \$137,043.25.

- Carrollton Exempted Village School District (CEVSD): The new 1,033 student high/middle school is phase I of a two phase PK-12 project designed by Lesko Architecture and build by Shook-Touchstone Construction. CEVSD partnered with the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC) to share the total cost of the project. The state is paying 39 percent and CEVSD is paying 61 percent. This was made possible by the negotiated Carroll County Energy Enterprise Agreement. In addition, CEVSD is funding the entire expense for a performing arts center and field house. The new building has four extended learning studios, at 2,835 square feet each, and four adjacent classrooms with operable partitions that can be opened between classrooms. There is also a career-technical space including a 1,782 square foot shop and adjacent classroom. The commons/dining hall has seating for 350 students. The varsity gym will seat about 1,300 people. The theater style auditorium has a seating capacity for 513, which includes an orchestra pit and a 2,891 square foot stage. The PAC has a sound system, video system, and large screen projector with an electrically operated screen for video presentation. The facility has a fully rigged fly-loft to allow stage sets, acoustical shells and lighting to be flown out overhead.

- Griffiths Greenhouse: David and Heidi Daniels purchased Griffiths Greenhouse from Loren and Sharon Griffiths in November 2014. The Daniels built a new garden center and made upgrades to the structures of existing buildings with material costs of around \$25,000. They purchased an additional retail location property on Canton Rd. to provide worker housing, a maintenance shop and construction of a billboard to help shoppers locate the business. The property also serves as an additional retail location. Approximately \$85,000 was invested in purchasing and upgrading the property. In addition to the Daniels who work full-time on their farm and greenhouse, they employ one full-time employee and five part-time seasonal workers. They continue to expand services and products. An educator with over 25 years' experience, Heidi is adding a number of workshops for 2019.

- PNC Financial Services Group/PNC Bank Carrollton: The 2018 project included: full branch renovation-replacement of existing teller line and under counter cabinets, buildout of a new cash room, new private office, and new breakroom, carpet, furniture and paint. The project entailed approximately 4,200 square feet of renovated space. Cost of the project was \$176,248.

- Que Pasa Restaurant: Opened in Carrollton in 2017, the building underwent an extensive remodeling. The authentic Mexican restaurant is owned and operated by Jorge Nanco Olmos. He oversaw the renovation of approximately 3,000 square feet of restaurant, kitchen, restrooms and meeting space. Cost was \$200,000.

