



Moberly Area Chamber of Commerce
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Media Release

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TITLE HERE: Annual Chamber Banquet Award Winners

The Moberly Area Chamber of Commerce had their Annual Banquet Fundraiser on May 1, 2021, at the 4th Street Theatre. Due to COVID-19 the event was postponed throughout 2020 and an entire new atmosphere was created intended to celebrate Members and the ability to gather again after a long year of business struggles.

This year the lighthearted indoor-outdoor event was Kentucky Derby themed with big hats and Derby Downs Dress encouraged. Attendees were welcomed to the event by a red-carpet photograph. Heavy hors d'oeuvres were served under the tent outside and inside the historic theatre. A Run for the Roses Wine Bar, Top Shelf bourbon sampling, live entertainment and games were some of the other activities that attendees could participate in. At post time, attendees gathered inside the theatre to watch the Kentucky Derby. Immediately following the race, prizes were randomly drawn for those that chose the first place, second place, third place and last place horse. A Best Hat and Most Dapper contest were also held.

Each year the Chamber honors its members for their achievements and this Banquet was no different. To end the evening Chamber President Heather Martin distributed the Annual Chamber Awards. Little Dixie Regional Library Director, Rachel Grime received the 2021 Emerging Professional of the Year for her innovation and service to her community not only through the library but beyond.

Troy Bock, Director of Moberly Parks and Recreation (MPRD) was awarded the 2021 Distinguished Service Award of the Year for his service to the Moberly area as Director of MPRD. In the community, Bock also volunteers with Knights of Columbus, Moberly Kiwanis Club and Randolph County Extension.

The 2021 Community Partnership of the Year went to the Randolph County Health Department for their hard work in assisting the community throughout the COVID-19 Pandemic. Huffman Insurance Group (HIG) took home the 2021 Business of the Year. HIG has rapidly expanded their business and helps their customers navigate the insurance world, with both personal and commercial opportunities.

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Each year we also honor our Past Chamber President through the Meritorious Service Award. The 2019 & 2020 award went to Scott McGarvey & the 2021 award went to Chris Weathers.

The event concluded with induction of Carolee Hazlet to the Hall of Fame. Hazlet has worked for 58 years working in Community and Economic Development. She helped establish Moberly's first museum, fundraised and secured tax credits for the revitalization of the 4th Street Theatre, established the War Memorial at Omar Bradley statue at Rothwell Park and many other volunteer efforts to help Moberly and the surrounding area. There are very few Boards or Service Clubs in Moberly that have not been touched by Hazlet over her lifetime of giving to the community. Chamber President Heather Martin said "it is always an honor for the Chamber to be able to recognize achievements. After a year of restrictions with little joy to be found it made these awards and recognitions even more special to give."

The Moberly Area Chamber of Commerce works to promote, sustain and grow the long-term viability of Randolph County and the surrounding area by supporting Members, providing business assistance, promoting events, carrying out public awareness campaigns to promote Tourism and providing opportunities for Member-to-Member Networking. Learn more about the Chamber at www.moberlychamber.com