

CABA Award for Excellence in Customer Service

To: Griffith Building Supply, 25937 Highway 41, Griffith

Recipients: Scott MacDonald, Sue Lafleur and Brigitte Hoffmann

Griffith Building Supply was established in 1989 by Scott MacDonald. The store was operated part time in these early years since Scott also had a building contracting business. In 1997 Sue Lafleur and Brigitte Hoffmann became partners in the business and ran the store while Scott concentrated on the contracting business.

In the years that followed, the building where the store is located, grew in size and in stock that was carried. Much of this expansion was at the suggestion of customers. When the Dacre Nursery closed, the Griffith Building Supply once more expanded their stock to include gardening supplies, soil, manure and plants. It was their customers that they had in mind and the long drive to Renfrew that these customers would have needed to make. Their last expansion was into the tool rental business, again at the suggestion of customers.

In the last fifteen years that I have shopped at the store, I have not had a single bad experience. The residents of Griffith, Matawatchan and Denbigh are very lucky to have such a well stocked store run by very knowledgeable and helpful owners and staff.

Nominated by Bill Graham

CABA Award for Excellence in Ambiance for a Commercial Venue

To: The Library Guesthouse, 12637 Lanark Rd. Calabogie

Recipients: Tama McCartney and Chris Fleming

I am pleased to introduce my Calabogie neighbours to you. Well, actually Tama and Chris do not live in the neighbourhood, but they are excellent neighbours never-the-less. Up the street from us is a red brick building with quite a history. It was built in 1924 as a convent for The Sisters of St. Joseph teachers at the school next door. Over time, they sold the building to the township to house the library. Eventually, it was sold to the Kennedy family as a vacation spot for family celebrations. In 2008, Tama and Chris formed a partnership and purchased the building to serve as a guest house for Calabogie Motorsport customers and other visitors to the area. They named their place 'The Library Guest House'. Needless-to-say, there was much confusion during the renovation when tradesmen would arrive at the township library on Calabogie Road with a load of lumber, plumbing supplies or shingles looking for Chris. The renovations and decor are superb and welcoming. Restored historical photos of Calabogie and area deck the walls. The gardens and backyard patio with sauna, BB-Q and gazebo provide a restful ambiance for the enjoyment of quiet summer evenings. The Library Guesthouse is also a haven for hunters in the fall and skiers in the winter. A welcome addition to our street is this home away from home.

Nominated by Mary Joan Hale

CABA Award for Excellence in Ambiance – Home-based Studio

To: D. MacNabb Studio, 5377 Calabogie Rd. Calabogie

Recipient: Dwyene MacNabb

Dwyene and Ron have created a new entrance to their property which is appealing in design. The tree-lined driveway opens to a delightful, beautifully landscaped home with expansive patios on three sides of the building including a beautiful lakefront view creating a relaxed atmosphere. An inviting studio entrance is located at the side of the house where Dwyene tastefully displays her recent work in both her studio and her living area. The ambiance is warm, inviting and friendly. Her well-honed skills as an artist in oils and watercolours are evident in her cheerful, local scenery; clients are enchanted with her scenes from the past of the old Calabogie waterfront. Definitely worth a visit or why not even register for one of her art classes.

Nominated by Carolyn Jakes

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CABA Award for Excellence in Community Service, Nov. 29, 2010

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To: The Matawatchan Community Market Committee

Recipients: (Organising Group) Ken Birkett, Joanne Murray, Audrey Copeland, Richard Copeland, Adam Copeland, Filipa Martins, Sandy Downs, Juliette LeGal and Bill Graham

This farmer's market has returned a sense of community to Matawatchan. A number of residents saw the need for a source of local vegetables, baked goods and crafts, as well as a venue for residents to meet. Other than the local church, there was no place where people could gather on a regular basis. The market committee originated as a result of community meetings designed to gather ideas and to designate those who would bring the idea of a local market forward. When no outside seed money was forthcoming, the committee proceeded without it. Working on a shoestring budget the market was soon financially viable without outside help.

After four years of operation, the Matawatchan Community Market has become very popular in western Greater Madawaska. Market vendors and customers come from Denbigh, Griffith, Matawatchan and the surrounding cottage country. A very popular element is the serving of a hot lunch. Not only is it an important source of income for the market and for the individuals preparing lunch, but it is a place where people can meet friends and make new friends. The market and its lunch component have brought together full-time and seasonal residents, campers and other visitors. With its presence, the Market creates a welcome and successful focal point for our community.

Nominated by J.P. De Grandmont