

## Chamber Recognizes Award Recipients at Luncheon



The Greater Hazleton Chamber of Commerce presented their 2011 Business and Community Awards at a special luncheon held on Thursday, October 27<sup>th</sup> at the Lookout House in Drums. The luncheon was sponsored by Luzerne County Community College.

Winning the Small Business of the Year Award, sponsored by Comfort Keepers was Brenner Recycling. The Large Business of the Year Award, sponsored by Gottstein Corporation was The Laurels Senior Living Community. The Pride of Place Award, sponsored by Providence Place Retirement Community was won by McDonald's Restaurant / Kavlick Enterprises Route 309

Location. The "Rocco Colangelo, Sr." Volunteer of the Year Award, sponsored by M&T Banks was won by Andrew Piskel. The Healthy Workplace Award, sponsored by Blue of Northeastern Pennsylvania, in cooperation with ChamberChoice, was won by the Keystone Job Corps Center. The Green Business of the Year Award sponsored by Hazleton Oil & Environmental was won by Romark Logistics of PA. The Entrepreneur of the Year Award was sponsored by the Great Valley Technology Alliance and was won by Martin J. Jelly, Jr., owner of Shaker's Bar, Anne's Variety and Sweetie Pies. The Chamber's Women's Networking Committee also recognized the recipients of their annual Women's Empowerment Grant PPL contributed \$1000 toward the grant fund, and the Hazleton YMCA/YWCA Kirkpatrick Foundation contributed \$500 toward the grant fund, therefore allowing the committee to award two additional grants on top of their existing annual \$1000 grant. This grant was initiated through the Chamber's Women's Networking Committee and is intended to assist women who are beginning their education, returning to college for an advanced degree, or taking additional courses to improve their workplace skills. A \$1000 grant was presented to Renee Forte and Karen Williams and a \$500 grant was presented to Melanie Kalinowski.

According to Terry Malloy, Chairman of the Awards Committee, "The awards were initiated to highlight businesses that are located in the Greater Hazleton Area, and to recognize the important role that volunteers play in our community. Mr. Malloy states, "The judging was extremely difficult with many excellent applicants in each category. However, I feel that the judges made excellent choices with the above - mentioned winners."

Romark would like to congratulate all of the other recipients of this year's awards and thanks The Greater Hazleton Chamber of Commerce for their recognition of our commitment to sustainability.