

Rotary recognizes 13 for vocational excellence

Submitted by [Lucy Biebel](#) on May 29, 2015 - 4:11pm



The Rotary Club of Beaumont recognized 13 individuals for their outstanding impact on the community Wednesday, May 20, at its annual Vocational Excellence Awards ceremony at the MCM Eleganté.

“The whole purpose of this event is to spread good will and recognize excellence. This year, we had 13 outstanding nominees worthy of this award,” said Jane Burns, Rotary Club member and event chair. “It’s just to recognize excellence in the community and give people a pat on the back that normally don’t get that. This opportunity also gives Rotarians the platform to recognize how important these different vocations are to our community.”

Recipients were introduced by the Rotarian who nominated them and then presented with their Vocational Excellence Awards.

“A relationship like this is certainly above the call of duty,” Rotarian Sheree Pierce said of her nominee, T.D. Moore. “Her example of service is a testament to her character.”

Moore, a “bugspert” at Bill Clark Pest Control, was recognized for her thoughtful consideration of her clients and their families.

Kristi Fuselier, a teacher at West Brook High School, nominated the school’s head custodian Ezekiel Brachett.

“The most important person on our campus is Mr. Zeke,” Fuselier said. “Without Zeke, the school would literally fall apart. I don’t think I’ve ever seen him sit down and enjoy a meal; he’s always eating on the run. So today, it’s my honor and pleasure to finally, after over 20 years, treat him to a meal where he has to sit, relax and enjoy.”

In recognition of “Service Above Self,” the Rotary Club of Beaumont recognizes individuals who demonstrate exemplary service, honesty and friendliness in performing their jobs.

The Rotary is a worldwide organization of business and professional leaders that works to provide humanitarian service, encourages high ethical standards in all vocations, and helps build goodwill and peace in the world. Approximately 1.2 million Rotarians belong to more than 33,000 clubs in more than 200 countries and geographical areas.

“A Rotarian lives by a four-way test, and while these people are not ‘Rotarians,’ they certainly represent the four-way test that for us, makes you a better person,” said Burns.

According to Burns, a Rotarian applies a four-way test to any decision: Is it the truth? Is it fair to all concerned? Will it build goodwill and better friendships? Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

“These people do their job and so much more because they do their job with such a great attitude,” Burns added. “They have a job description to fulfill, but boy, these people sure do color outside the lines.”

2015 Vocational Excellence Award recipients

Ezekiel Brachett, head custodian at West Brook High School, nominated by Kristi Fuselier; Darlene Cain, certified nursing assistant at The Oaks at Beaumont, nominated by Steve Corley; Kristie England, general manager at Universal Travel, nominated by Floyd McSpadden; John Fears, owner of Calder Cleaners & Shirt Laundry, nominated by Bridget M. Johnson; Gus Garcia, banquet director at MCM Elegante, nominated by Lee Freeland and Brenda Gray; Bridgett Hlavinka, grant writer and program development coordinator at Nutrition and Services for Seniors; nominated by Cynthia Wolf; Gay Kinard, dental hygienist at Jay Pfister DDS, nominated by Lynn Castle; Cordella Lyon, HIV Program Coordinator at Baptist Hospitals of Southeast Texas, nominated by Kristie Young; T.D. Moore, pest control technician at Bill Clark Pest Control, Inc., nominated by Sheree Pierce; Jana Newbold, senior administrative associate for the Center for Career and Professional Development at Lamar University, nominated by Teresa Simpson; Jennifer Schneider, senior administrative associate for the Department of New Student and Leadership Programs at Lamar University, nominated by Teresa Simpson; Theresa Seals, service advisor at Kinsel Auto; nominated by Butch and Cindy Cherry; and Sharon Thompson, senior consultant and special projects director at the Better Business Bureau Serving Southeast Texas, nominated by John Paschall.

For more information about The Rotary Club of Beaumont, contact (409) 842-1913. The Rotary Club of Beaumont is at 2355 I-10 S. in Beaumont.

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