

ASD-N Spirit Award Citations – May 7, 2014
(as read at the time of presentation)

“Ladies Diamond Dinner” - Campbellton.

This group of ladies holds an annual fundraising dinner (and I know this year’s dinner is this Saturday night) with proceeds going to both the English and French schools’ Breakfast Programs. Over the last few years, tens of thousands of dollars have gone to feed children breakfast and, without their generous support, schools would not be able to sustain their Breakfast Programs to the extent that they do. This allows more children to go to class with food in their belly, allowing them to focus on learning rather than hunger. They are, therefore, able to achieve to their fullest potential. Accepting the award on the behalf of the Ladies’ Diamond Dinner are Diane Cyr and Kim Beaulieu.

David Gaudet - Rexton.

David and his family moved to Rexton six years ago after purchasing Foodland, the local grocery store. He has been involved in the school community in many ways since that time. He supports book drives, jobs for students, scholarships, fundraisers, donating and delivering supplies for the area schools’ Breakfast Programs. He is the only business that has ever approached a school offering assistance without any solicitation on the schools’ part. He is active with the Home and School at Rexton Elementary and has been that school’s Chair of the PSSC for the last three year. Unfortunately, work commitments did not allow Dave to attend this evening’s ceremony but he was genuinely touched with being chosen for this award. We will be presenting it to him personally at a later date.

Rotary Club of Chatham

This organization supports many endeavors in the Miramichi area, including the Turnaround Achievement Award. This is an event that recognizes and celebrates those students who struggle in school for many varied reasons and who, for that school year, have made significant changes and enjoyed success by overcoming, sometimes huge obstacles. Beyond that, the Chatham Rotary is involved with sponsoring Interact Clubs at our local high schools, purchasing sports equipment for schools, contributing to literacy development by providing funds for Early Intervention books, providing scholarships and monetary donations for Safe Grad activities, awards banquets and local Breakfast Programs. Accepting the award on behalf of the Rotary Club of Chatham is Bruce Rendell, club president.

Jodie Lavigne – Bathurst

Jodie is a parent at Parkwood Heights Elementary School in Bathurst who exhibits positive energy, enthusiasm and commitment to that school. She is an active member of the Home and School Committee. She spearheads, organizes and runs many important fundraisers at the school, including the book fair, the Christmas Bazaar and the annual Easter Basket Auction, which has raised tens of thousands of dollars for various school initiatives. She is particularly drawn to the special needs students who attend Parkwood Heights Elementary School, and she goes out of her way to make them feel special and appreciated. Last year, the Easter Basket Auction raised \$10,000 to purchase a wheelchair swing for a student at the school. The positive impact that she has had on the students and staff of Parkwood Heights School cannot be measured.