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The Port Washington Chamber of Commerce paid tribute to local businesses and residents who have made a difference in the community during the organization's annual awards banquet, held Wednesday, Nov. 14, at Memories Ballroom in the Town of Port Washington.

Sanfilippo Sentry Foods was named Business of the Year. The retailer was honored for its "Think Local, Shop Port" campaign which promoted products made and sold by local businesses.

Baltica Tea Room, owned by Urszula Cholewinska and Dan Micha, received the City Beautification Award. The building on North Franklin Street, which formerly housed Graff Jewelers, underwent extensive renovation before opening as a tea room and gift shop.

Former Port Washington Mayor Scott Huebner, who stepped down in April after nine years leading the city, was named Citizen of the Year.

Huebner was a strong force in starting the Port Washington Main Street program, which promotes downtown redevelopment in the community.

Leroy Bley, former Ozaukee County Board supervisor and chairman, was given a Special Recognition Award. Bley was acknowledged for his work "as an ambassador for the City of Port Washington," according to the Chamber.

Derek Strohl received the Outstanding Achievement Award for spearheading the creation of the Hales Trail Community Garden in Port, a project that rented almost 60 plots in its first year.

Robert Mittnacht received the Distinguished Service Award for organizing the popular Freeport Music concert series. The free series brought music acts to the lakefront throughout the summer.

Image Information: THE PORT WASHINGTON CHAMBER of Commerce presented its annual awards during a banquet at Memories Ballroom in the Town of Port Washington last week. Honorees included (from left) Derek Strohl, Outstanding Achievement; former County Board Chairman Leroy Bley, Special Recognition; Dan and Vince Micha, City Beautification; Joe Sanfilippo, Business of the Year; former Port Washington Mayor Scott Huebner, Citizen of the Year; and Robert Mittnacht, Distinguished Service. Photo by Sam Arendt