



2020 Community Awards Recognize Outstanding Service

The Lower Providence Township Board of Supervisors recognized outstanding contributions of individuals and businesses within the community, presenting the 2020 community awards. Those submitting nominations for the awards were asked for input on the leadership, service, character and accomplishments of the individual or business. The 2020 winners are: Citizen of the Year, the Darby Family; Volunteer of the Year, Christopher Carbonara; and Business of the Year, Colledgeville Italian Bakery.

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

The Citizen of the Year Award is presented to individuals who have made exceptional contributions to the community, lending their leadership and vision for the betterment of the Township.

Dr. Janine Darby, and her two oldest children, Chadé and Ty, were catalysts for change in the local community and were the driving forces behind the creation this year of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Task Force. Under Dr. Darby's leadership as president of this task force, more than 300 community members have been organized around the common goal of supporting diverse, equitable, and inclusive practices to inspire the respectful treatment of all community members and students regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexuality or disabilities.

Through the DEI Task Force, the Darby family's goal of raising community awareness has been carried out through peaceful protests, roundtable discussions with the Lower Providence Township Police Department and a virtual fundraiser. The task force is planning additional events to continue the celebration of our community's diversity.

The Darby Family is to be commended for their courage and leadership to make a positive change and to be a unifying force in our community.



The Darby Family: Chadé, Ty, Avani, Janine, Dion and Chád

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

The Volunteer of the Year Award is presented annually to an individual, group or organization who has performed outstanding service or made an exceptional contribution to the community by volunteering their time and talents.

This past summer, Christopher Carbonara, owner of Via Roma Restaurant in Eagleville, played a critical part in the success of an initiative called “Meals for 150,” an initiative that provided meals for children whose parents were struggling because of the pandemic. Despite facing the challenges the pandemic presented him as a business owner, Mr. Carbonara opened his restaurant to the program. He received food deliveries, provided access to refrigeration and food storage, and made space available for volunteers to pack meals.

When restaurants were permitted to reopen and Mr. Carbonara was working to get his own business back up and running, he continued to take food deliveries for the program and provide space for the volunteers.



Christopher Carbonara

Over just a few short months, Mr. Carbonara’s generosity facilitated the distribution of thousands of meals to local residents by the program.

BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

The Business of the Year Award recognizes a business or business owner located within Lower Providence Township for outstanding professional and community contributions.

Collegeville Italian Bakery has for many years been a successful business and also a very generous one. This family-run business continually supports local sports teams, charitable causes, and most notably, emergency responders, police and firefighters.

Collegeville Italian Bakery supports and unites the community in other ways, as well. They are cheerleaders for the local community with their marquee sign regularly saluting achievements – from birthdays and anniversaries to athletic accomplishments to charity events. And innovative owners Steve and Patrizia Carcarey serve as ambassadors for the community, taking their signature custom tomato pies far and wide.



A fabulous menu of excellent pizzas, salads, sandwiches and other quality Italian foods is a testament to their commitment to family traditions and dedication to excellence. Collegeville Italian Bakery is a perfect blend of outstanding operations and generosity as a corporate citizen.