

Community service applauded at Chamber Gala

Written by Brenda Johnson Brandt

Community pride was prevalent at the Holyoke Chamber of Commerce 21st annual Gala held Monday, Feb. 3 at the Phillips County Event Center.

Family and friends shared in the acknowledgement of those nominated by local residents and selected for honors for their contributions to the community.

Awards were presented to Sherry Simms, Employee of the Year; Nicholas Ortner and Anastasia Conklin, Youth of the Year; Melissa Memorial Hospital, Business of the Year; and Dorothy Ortner, Citizen of the Year.

Star of the Year honors went to the Phillips County Historical Society for their partnership with the chamber in events and research.

Chamber board member Annette Murphy-Shaw emceed Monday night's program.

Sound Check, the HHS select choir, directed by Marcia Dalton and Maury Kramer, provided delightful entertainment to begin the evening.

A silent auction featured numerous items donated by businesses and individuals for fun bidding wars before the evening was over.

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