

# Bristol Chamber of Commerce to honor award recipients

**Published: Wednesday, 27 March 2019 20:31**

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BRISTOL - The Bristol Chamber of Commerce has announced the award recipients for its 130th Annual Awards Dinner, June 5 at the Aqua Turf Club in Plantsville.

The dinner will begin with a reception and silent auction at 5:30 p.m. at the banquet facility at 556 Mulberry St. The program will begin at 6:30 p.m. Cindy Bombard, president and CEO of the chamber, congratulated all of the honorees.

The E. Bartlett Barnes Distinguished Service Award will go to Kurt Barwis.

“E. Bartlett Barnes really believed in giving back to the city and we feel that Kurt Barwis embodies that spirit,” said Bombard. “We’re giving him this award not only because of what he has done for Bristol Hospital, but also because he has been a pioneer and a strong advocate for healthcare and hospitals in our area.”

The Volunteer of the Year Award will be presented to Wanita Parent.

“Wanita works for People’s Bank, but she also gives support to many organizations behind the scenes,” said Bombard. “We have a lot of people who are wonderful, hidden gems of the community and she is one of them.”

The Bristol Housing Authority will receive the Outstanding Community Service Award.

“The Bristol Housing Authority is an exceptional organization that helps individuals grow and get the support they need to find jobs,” said Bombard.

The Special Recognition Award will go to the Main Street Community Foundation.

“The Main Street Community Foundation recently celebrated their 24th anniversary,” said Bombard. “They are a wonderful foundation that supports a plethora of causes including youth groups and nonprofit organizations.”

Quota Club of Bristol will receive the Spirit of Bristol Award.

“They are an international organization with a Bristol branch that gives back a lot to help women and children in our community,” said Bombard.



Thomaston Savings Bank will receive the Distinguished Business of the Year Award.

“Stephen Lewis and Thomaston Savings Bank are economic drivers of our community,” said Bombard. “They have opened two branches locally in the past several years. And, Thomaston Savings Bank also believes in giving back to the community through the Thomaston Savings Bank Foundation.”

There will also be a new award this year, the Outstanding Youth Community Service Award, which will go to Bristol Central High School’s InterAct Club.

“Through the technical advisory council, the Chamber has a good partnership with the city and we have been really impressed with the amount of school clubs that give back to the community,” said Bombard. “InterAct Club, which is under the umbrella of the Rotary Club, have been extremely helpful and demonstrated tremendous civic engagement. They just volunteered at our health fair and we’ve seen firsthand the extraordinary work they do.”

Tickets are \$70 per person and sponsorships and student sponsorships are available.

For more information, or to register, visit [centralctchambers.org](http://centralctchambers.org) or call 860-584-4718.

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