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Press Release

August 18, 2015

Local Entrepreneurs to be Honored

Twenty-seven local entrepreneurs will be honored in the 16th Annual Entrepreneurial Excellence Awards hosted by the *Business Ledger* and their sponsoring partners.

The awards will be presented at a reception beginning at 4:30 p.m. to be held on Wednesday, September 16 at the Naperville Campus of Northern Illinois University located at 1120 E. Diehl Rd.

The keynote speaker is Jacqueline Camacho-Ruiz, Making It Happen Director, of JJR Marketing. Jackie is an award-winning entrepreneur, national speaker, philanthropist and author of seven books.

Sponsors for this year's awards program are: Focus Capital Advisors, Inland Real Estate Group, Northern Illinois University School of Business; B. Gunther & Co.; & JJR Marketing.

Awards will be presented in 7 categories: The honorees will also be profiled in the October 12th issue of the *Business Ledger*. This year's honorees are:

- **Early Stage:** **Coleen & Brian Graham**, Coleen's Better Than Breadsticks, Villa Park; **Janee Matteson**, Kayak Morris, Hinsdale; **Linda Murray**, Vista Linda Eye Care, Mount Prospect.
- **Growth:** **Henry Matthew Bellagamba**, Fullerton Engineering, Rosemont; **Chuck Pine**, Chuck's Southern Comforts Café, Darien; **Julie Savitt**, AMS Earth Movers, Lake Villa.
- **Innovation:** Mara Hauser, 25N Coworking, Geneva; Michael Heilmann & Lawrence Jordan, Wi-Tronix, LLC, Bolingbrook; David Larsen, Larsen Manufacturing, Mundelein; **Maureen O'Brien**, Global Women's Leadership Forum, Batavia.
- **Lifetime Achievement:** **Murray Gordon**, MAGA, Ltd., Riverwoods; **Diane Middlebrooks**, Itasca Bank & Trust Company; **Terri Roeslmeier**, Automated Business Designs, Rosemont; **Roy Spencer**, Perma-Seal Basement Systems, Downers Grove.
- **Outstanding Service to Entrepreneurs:** **Austin Dempsey**, Fox Valley Entrepreneur Center, Batavia; **Nic Zito**, Rev3 / Choose DuPage, Naperville.
- **Regional Spirit:** **Ellen Huxtable**, Advantage Business Concepts, Batavia.
- **Young Entrepreneur (under age of 40):** **Derek & Gavin Burseth**, Burseth Farm, Woodstock; **Adam Justice**, Grid Connect, Inc., Naperville; **Geneva & Rena Pedersen**, Treasure Breads, Yorkville; **Diana Peters**, Symbol Training Institute, Addison; **James Ratke**, Urban Produce Farms, West Chicago; **Matt Zahora**, Chicagoland Aviation, Romeoville.

Cost to attend the reception is \$55 per person. You must register online at <http://www.dhbusinessledger.com> no later than September 11. For additional information call Jim Elsener (jelsener@dailyherald.com), at 630-955-3593.

The Business Ledger is the leading provider of business news and information about businesses and the economy in suburban Chicago. The Business Ledger is a sister publication to the Daily Herald and part of the Paddock Publications family.