

MVHS announces winners of preservation awards

The Historic Preservation Committee of the Mahoning Valley Historical Society Board of Directors is announcing the winners of the 2015 Historic Preservation Awards. The awards honor those in Mahoning and Trumbull counties who take an active role in preserving historic buildings, sites, and districts. The categories and winners are as follows:

Community Revitalization Award: Smoky Hollow War Memorial – The memorial in Smoky Hollow lists residents of the Hollow who were killed in World War II and the Korean and Vietnam wars. It was found that the plaque on the memorial had one soldier's name wrong and was missing another World War II soldier completely. Through extensive genealogical research, **Gerald Nunziato** and **Felix Lazazzera** compiled information on all the soldiers, including where they were born, where they went to school, their address in Smoky Hollow, date of enlistment, branch of the service, where they served, their assignment when they died, and where they are buried. The researchers were also able to get photographs of each soldier. All of this information has been compiled and is available in the MVHS Archives. A new plaque was made for the memorial that corrects the name of **Daniel Novak**, adds **Joseph Siegel**, adds one soldier from the Vietnam War, and categorizes the names by the war in which they fought.

Commercial Revitalization Award: The Raymond John Wean Foundation – Market Block Building – Warren's Market Block building was built in 1868. In 2011 the Chesler Group of Cleveland purchased the building specifically to renovate it for the Raymond John Wean Foundation. The finished building houses the offices of the Wean Foundation, additional office space for new initiatives funded by the Foundation, a community meeting space, conference rooms, break rooms, a fitness room, and reception areas.

MVHS Board of Directors' Award of Achievement: Mahoning Dispatch Building & Canfield Historical Society – For 91 years, The Mahoning Dispatch served Canfield and surrounding area, earning the distinction of being the oldest continuously published newspaper owned by a single family in Mahoning County. In 1893, the business moved to 23 S. Broad St., to an 1866 building originally built by Pierpont Edwards. The Mahoning Dispatch was published by three generations of the Fowler family until 1968. It was left to the Canfield Historical Society. The Society maintains the building and has worked with preservationists to institute best practices for maintenance of the printing presses. It also has digitized 91 years of the Dispatch, which are available online through the Library of Congress.

Jeanne D. Tyler – Honored for her commitment to the historic preservation in the region, especially through her support of restoration projects for Stambaugh Auditorium, and the Tyler Mahoning Valley History Center and Arms Family Museum of the Mahoning Valley Historical Society.

William Conti – Honored for his dedication and leadership with preservation and restoration projects at Stambaugh Auditorium, including: the auditorium ceiling restoration, the E. M. Skinner organ, and renovations of the courtyard patio and the historic ballroom. Conti also was instrumental in the Forest Glen Estates Neighborhood Association gaining historic district status on the National Register of Historic Places.

The winners were honored at the Mahoning Valley Historical Society's 140th Annual meeting, which was held on June 16 at the Tyler Mahoning Valley History Center in downtown Youngstown.

For information about the awards and MVHS, call 330-743-2589 or visit www.mahoninghistory.org