



**Village of Lake in the Hills
Press Release**

600 Harvest Gate
Lake in the Hills, IL 60156

847-960-7400
Fax: 847- 960-7415
www.lith.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Department: Administration
Contact Name: Fred Mullard, Village Administrator
Phone Number: 847-960-7412

2021 Gordon Larsen Award Winners Recognized at Village Board Meeting

Lake in the Hills, IL – The Village of Lake in the Hills is excited to announce the winners of the 2021 Gordon Larsen Business Achievement Awards.

Best Customer Service: Butcher on the Block
Best Community Service: The Lakehouse Tattoo
Employer of Choice: Marie Charles Salon & Spa
Best New Business: UpRising Bakery & Café

Elected officials and staff honored the winning businesses at the February 10, 2022 Village Board of Trustees meeting. The winners will be recognized in various Village publications, social media campaigns, and other outlets.

Nominations praised winning businesses for their exceptional customer service, their charitable work to support area non-profits, and their positive working environments. Each business has demonstrated a level of community engagement that contributes to the quality and character of Lake in the Hills.

The Village recognizes businesses that embody the philanthropic and entrepreneurial spirit of Gordon Larsen, who was influential in shaping the physical and civic landscape of Lake in the Hills, each year. Gordon Larsen believed in charitable businesses whose success was attributable to exemplary service to employees, customers, and the community.

The Village accepted nominations through December 9, 2021 and received 190 nominations for 19 Lake in the Hills businesses. Applications and nominations for the 2022 Gordon Larsen Business Achievement Awards program will be accepted throughout the year.

Best Customer Service

Butcher on the Block
4660 W. Algonquin Road
Lake in the Hills, IL 60156
847-669-6679
Year Established in the Village: 2000
Business Owner: Tom and Jill Yucuis

A long-standing business in Lake in the Hills, Butcher on the Block received 69 nominations for Best Customer Service and 83 total nominations across categories. Nominations frequently highlighted the sincerity and attentiveness of the owners and staff, the high-quality products, and the small-town feel created by the friendly, personable service. A well-known and highly recommended gourmet meat and deli market, Butcher on the Block strives to serve the finest quality products to the community. Butcher on the Block previously won the 2019 Gordon Larsen Award for Best Customer Service.

Best Community Service

The Lakehouse Tattoo

2120 W. Algonquin Road
Lake in the Hills, IL 60156
224-678-7272

Year Established in the Village: 2019

Business Owner: Rob Downs

The Lakehouse Tattoo quickly established a reputation for community service after opening in 2019. Nominations commended the business for consistent efforts to give back to the community by hosting fundraisers and clothing and food drives. Over the past three years, their annual Thanksgiving Food Drive has brought in 300 to 700 pounds of donated goods per year for the Algonquin/Lake in the Hills Interfaith Food Pantry. The Lakehouse Tattoo received 20 total nominations. In 2019, The Lakehouse Tattoo was recognized with the newly created Gordon Larsen Award for Best New Business.

Employer of Choice

Marie Charles Salon & Spa

4610 W. Algonquin Road
Lake in the Hills, Illinois 60156
224-858-4700

Year Established in the Village: 2015

Business Owner: Holly Taft

The recipient of 18 nominations between the Employer of Choice and Best Customer Service categories, Marie Charles Salon & Spa was commended for the owner's efforts to create a positive working environment. Nominations recognized the owner for supporting employees, cultivating an atmosphere of kindness, and making her staff feel like family. An Aveda concept salon and spa, Marie Charles Salon & Spa provides a relaxing atmosphere, quality products, and exceptional services. In 2017, Marie Charles Salon & Spa won the Gordon Larsen Award for Best Customer Service.

Best New Business

UpRising Bakery & Café

2104 W. Algonquin Road
Lake in the Hills, Illinois 60156
224-209-8695

Year Established in the Village: 2021

Business Owner: Corinna Bendel Sac

Opened in 2021, UpRising Bakery and Café quickly established a reputation for caring customer service, generous community service, and unique, high-quality products. Nominations highlighted the

owner's community-minded spirit and reputation for generosity. UpRising Bakery & Café frequently donates proceeds and unsold food to support those in need throughout the community. Known for their allergen friendly items, UpRising Bakery and Café caters to customers' unique dietary needs and restrictions through their three kitchens: one gluten-free, one nut-free, and one traditional.

For more information on the winning businesses and a sample of the nominations received, please visit lith.org. Contact the Administration Department at 847-960-7400 with any questions.

Photos Attached:



President Bogdanowski presents Gordon Larsen Business Achievement Awards on February 10, 2022.



Butcher on the Block owners, Tom and Jill Yucuis, and staff accept the Best Customer Service award.



The Lakehouse Tattoo owner Rob Downs and family accept the Best Community Service award.



Marie Charles Salon & Spa owner Holly Taft and family accept the Employer of Choice award.



UpRising Bakery and Café owner Corinna Bendel Sac accepts the Best New Business award.

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