



NIAGARA COUNTY  
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TOWN OF NIAGARA BUSINESS LEADERS HONORED  
SKLARSKI SAYS SMALL BUSINESSES 'BACKBONE OF COUNTY'

NIAGARA FALLS AIR RESERVE STATION—Niagara County Legislator Danny W. Sklarski, D-Niagara, praised local business leaders Wednesday night at what has become an annual rite in the town of Niagara's business community, calling them the "backbone of our county."

Sklarski's remarks came at the annual awards dinner held by the Town of Niagara Business and Professional Association at the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station, where Sklarski delivered a series of proclamations on behalf of the County Legislature that honored the people that make the town of Niagara's business community work.

"We're very proud to honor our small businesses in the town of Niagara," Sklarski said, pointing to the importance of commercial business to the town. "The town of Niagara succeeds—and is the county's largest contributor of sales tax revenue—because of the incredible work ethic of people like the ones being honored here tonight, and those making up the audience."

Sklarski was joined at the dinner, held inside the air base's Falcon Club, by Gene Colucci, the president of the TNBPA. Colucci said the aim of the annual dinner, held by the association of more than 100 business leaders in the town of Niagara, was to enhance the relationship of business leaders to the community.

"We need to be involved in the community," Colucci said. "The Town of Niagara Business and Professional Association is a link—it's a bridge to government, it's a bridge to other businesses. We make the community a better place and enhance the community."

The honorees at Wednesday's dinner were:

- Alessandro Renzi, *businessperson of the year*
- Firth Jewelers, *business of the year*
- Gene's Wholesale, *employer of the year*
- Sandy Neureuter, *employee of the year*
- Angelo Onevello Jr., *citizen of the year*

"In Niagara County, we value the people who create jobs and who make our economy work, and still make time to give back to their community," Sklarski said. "The folks we honored tonight are some of the best and most successful, but they also represent our business community as a whole. We're lucky to have them."

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