

Chamber awards dinner next week in Salem

By Tom Dalton
Staff writer

SALEM — A company that builds wind turbines and a businesswoman who went to New Orleans to help after Hurricane Katrina are among more than two dozen award nominees at the Salem Chamber of Commerce's 86th annual dinner.

Thomas Groom of Groom Construction, which builds wind turbines, and Wendi Goldsmith, head of The Bioengineering Group, which worked on the post-Katrina efforts, are nominated for businessman and businesswoman of the year. Six individuals or businesses are nominated in each category, a list that includes "new business of the year" and "excellence in retail."

More than 230 tickets have been sold to the Celebrate Salem Awards dinner, which will be held Wednesday, April 16, in the atrium at the Peabody Essex Museum.

"People love the idea of having a major event in the museum and being part of the downtown," said Rinus Oosthoek, executive director of the chamber.

For tickets or information, call 978-744-0004 or go to www.salem-chamber.org. The ticket deadline is tomorrow.

Award nominees

Businessman of the Year

William Goldberg, Goldberg Brothers

Thomas Groom, Groom Construction

Paul Herrick, Keller-Williams Realty, Paul Herrick & Co.

Mark Leavitt, Salem Car Wash

Robert Lutts, Cabot Money Management

Hugh Kerr, A Passage to India, Witch City Rickshaw, Kerr Leathers

Businesswoman of the Year

Karen Andreas, The Salem News

Janet Barsanti, J. Mode

Jennie Cudmore, Crunchy Granola Baby

Wendi Goldsmith, The Bioengineering Group

Jacqueline Hazel, Jacqueline's Gourmet Cookies

Barbara Szafranski, Angelica of the Angels

New Business of the Year

Aggregate Designs

Gulu-Gulu Café

Radiance Aveda

Rouge Cosmetics

Salem Wine Imports

Upper Crust Pizza

Long-term Achievement Award

Coffee Time Bake Shop

Court House Deli

Crosby's Market

Healthworks Fitness Center for Women

In A Pig's Eye

O'Donnell Funeral Home

Community Service Award

William Howard, Beverly Co-Operative Bank

John Neely, Hawthorne Associates, and Christine Sullivan, Enterprise Center at Salem State College

Salem Arts Association

Salem Rotary

Salem YMCA

Bruce Whear, Wire 4 Hire

Excellence in Retail

A&J King Artisan Bakers

David Eng's Flowers

Gardner Mattress

Peabody Essex Museum Gift Shop

Treasures Over Time

Winer Brothers Paint and Hardware