

Encore, Buchanan take business awards

By JEFF WEST

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The McKinney Chamber of Commerce has announced Encore Wire as their Business of the Year and Dr. Jennifer Buchanan's dental practice was named Small Business of the Year for 2002.

Vince Rego started Encore Wire in McKinney in 1989 with six employees, it has grown to 565 employees with an annual payroll of \$22 million. The company recently got permission to build new buildings at the 95-acre Encore site, showing one of the reasons recent polls has shown them to be in the top 100 companies in the DFW area.

Rego was named Entrepreneur of the Year by INC Magazine in both 1990 and 1992 and has also been profiled, along with Encore Wire in Business Week, Fortune and Texas Business magazines. Encore manufactures wire for both commercial and residential uses and can custom make wire and the colored coating for that wire and has a state of the art distribution center. In the year 2000 the company had over \$300 million in sales.

Rego has also showed he and Encore Wire are good corporate citizens by supporting a number of local charitable endeavors including Special Olympics, the Community Food Pantry, the Samaritan Inn, the Mickey Mantle World Series and a number of other causes. He was recognized by the Rotary as a Good Samaritan because of his and Encore wires adoption of a large number of "angels" from the angel tree for needy children.

"I was awed and exceptionally please," Rego said. "I'm so glad we're here in McKinney, it's a great city. Everyone here supports what we're doing and as a result we support the city, charitable organizations and things of that nature. We make a great team."

Dr. Buchanan's dental practice was selected as the Small Business of the Year during Friday's McKinney Chamber of Commerce as much for her work with the community as for her successful practice.

Besides running one of the most successful dental practices in the city Buchanan has instituted and participated in a number of events to help those in needs.

She sponsors a skating party that raise money for Habitat for Humanity. She and her team



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Chamber biz awards

Karen Zachery with the McKinney Chamber presents the award for Best Small Business to local dentist Dr. Jennifer Buchanan at the recent awards banquet.

also donate their efforts to helping build a Habitat home. She has had patients bring in supplies and funds for the SPCA and holds a Christmas party where admission is an unwrapped toy for Community Lifeline.

She visits local head start programs promoting Dental Health Month by teaching good dental practices. She also provides dental care for some of the needy children in town, having school nurses provide names of candidates.

She also helped put together over 200 care kits filled with dental hygiene products plus \$1,000 in cash that was sent to New York's Ground Zero.

"I am honored and overwhelmed. McKinney is such a great place. I couldn't have done it without the support of my patients, my husband and of course my team," Buchanan said.

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