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## Waconia Scarecrow Tour Winners Announced

WACONIA, Minn. – Waconia 1 Collision is named the Grand Prize Winner of the Waconia Scarecrow Tour, while Lakeview Clinic and Philp Family Dentistry tied for the People’s Choice Award. A total of 44 scarecrows entered the contest hosted at Waconia Chamber of Commerce member businesses October 12-22.

Waconia 1 Collision’s “The Haunted Tow Mator” scarecrow display is a take on Disney Pixar’s “Cars” character. The craftsmanship and artistic appeal of the display impressed the judges. The Waconia 1 Collision team included natural materials such as a corn stalk tow hook, while constructing the truck from wood pallets and incorporating a reused vehicle hood and tires. The truck is accessorized by a group of spiders entangling a scarecrow in their webs. The judges commented that the corresponding theme to the purpose of the business made it a front runner.

Lakeview Clinic’s “Lakeview’s Pumpkin Patch – Where everyone is a character” impressed the judges with the creativity of the pumpkin patch characters. The scarecrows represent the retiring CEO Bob Wilcox and the new CEO Tracy Rheineck. According to Lakeview Clinic, the creation of each character in the display was a team effort.

Philp Family Dentistry’s “May the Floss be with you” scarecrow featured a Star Wars themed display while incorporating the importance of dental hygiene. The judges also commented on the amount of detail incorporated into this display.

Lakeview Clinic and Philp Family Dentistry brought in over 80 votes each of the 545 ballots that came in from the community. McDonald’s of Waconia’s “Big Mac” and HomeTown Bank’s “Barbie at the Bank” were other community favorites in the People’s Choice voting.

The creative ideas abounded this year with several honorable mentions from the judges in the Grand Prize category. The artistry and intricacy of Magnolia North’s “Harvest Queen” stood out to the judges, as did the originality of the “BCS Bees” display by BCS, Inc.

Family-friendly movies and television were a popular theme this year with both First Years Academy’s and Southview Elementary’s Super Mario Bros displays. Mystic Fortress Game’s “Pika-Boo,” Melchert Hubert Sjodin’s “Spongebob SquarePants” display, and Hoxie Homes & Remodeling “Sesame Street” themed scarecrows were other front runners.

Rebound Orthotics and Prosthetics “Cousin Sk-Eddie” theme based on the movie “National Lampoon’s Christmas Vacation” gave the judges a good laugh.

The Waconia Chamber of Commerce staff got in on the fun this year creating scarecrow “Destiny” after Destination Waconia. She’s ready to shop and dine local at the upcoming D.E.A.R. Shopping Day on November 4.

A panel of judges chose the Grand Prize winner, while the community voted on the People’s Choice winner. Out of the submitted community ballots, 10 voters were drawn to win prizes donated by Emagine Waconia Theatre, Sota Shine, and the Waconia Chamber of Commerce.

The chamber hosts the Waconia Scarecrow Tour annually to highlight member businesses, encourage community engagement, and spotlight Waconia as a fun destination. To see all the scarecrows, visit the Waconia Chamber of Commerce Facebook page or visit [DestinationWaconia.org](http://DestinationWaconia.org).

The Waconia Chamber of Commerce is a nonprofit, member-driven organization with a mission to promote a positive business environment and to enhance the quality of life in the Waconia community.

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