

# The Carmel Pine Cone

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## Chamber names best businesses of 2014

By MARY SCHLEY

**T**HE CARMEL Chamber of Commerce revealed its Awards of Excellence winners at a gala dinner at Rancho Cañada this week. Chamber members, visitors, employees, residents and others nominated the businesses they believed should be honored, and then the organization's 500-plus businesses received ballots so they could pick the best from among the top three vote-getters in each category.

The Business of the Year, meanwhile, was selected from last year's winners.

The winner announced at the Dec. 10 event was The Carmel Foundation, a nonprofit that provides services, low-cost housing and meals, classes, medical-equipment loans, transportation and other resources for members age 55 and older.

Category winners revealed Wednesday night during the party in the Wedgewood Event Center were:

Accommodations — **Carmel Valley Ranch**; Apparel & Jewelry — **The Treadmill**; Art Galleries — **Carmel Art Association**; Cultural Organizations — **Carmel Bach Festival**; Dining — **Vesuvio**; Legal & Financial — **Union Bank**; Media & Marketing — **Carmel Magazine**; Nonprofit Organization — **Big Sur International Marathon**; Personal Services — **The Holly Farm**; Real Estate Services — **Carmel Realty Co.**; Retail — **The Crossroads shopping center**; Services to Residents & Visitors — **The UPS Store**; Services to Visitors — **Concours on the Avenue**; and Specialty Food & Wine — **Bruno's Market & Delicatessen**.



Beth Bates, Kimberly Willison, Jill Sheffield and Nettie Porter (left to right) of The Carmel Foundation flanked John Lloyd, general manager of the Pine Inn and outgoing chamber board co-chair, when they celebrated receiving the Business of the Year Award Wednesday.