

# Haldimand tradespersons recognized

To The Haldimand Press

JARVIS—Four tradespeople from Haldimand County have been recognized for their outstanding contribution to the skilled trades.

The first-ever Skilled Tradesperson of the Year awards were handed out Friday, September 20, 2019 by the Workforce Planning Board of Grand Erie at a trades appreciation event, held at D and D's Banquet Hall in Jarvis.

The awards were created by the Workforce Planning Board to help recognize the important contribution that skilled

trades make to the local community and economy, and come at a time when there is a growing shortage of tradespeople. There are more than 150 trades in four sectors: industrial, construction, motive power, and service.

Award winners were selected from nominations made by area businesses and community members. This project is funded by the Government of Ontario.

Skilled Tradesperson of the Year awards are also being given to tradespeople at appreciation events in Brantford, Six Nations/New Credit, and Norfolk.



Award winner Chris Swick with Haldimand Motors Owner John Edelman

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**WINNERS**

**Chris Swick**  
Trainer, union official, and strong supporter of the electrician trade.  
Sector: Construction.  
Employer: International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), Local 105.

**Neil Huctwith**  
An industrial mechanic millwright.  
Sector: Industrial.  
Employer: Stelco.

**Henrietta Heeg**  
A dairy herdsman and owner of Springknoll Dairy.  
Sector: Service.  
Employer: Springknoll Dairy.

**Dave Suess**  
A millwright who teaches millwrighting at Mohawk College.  
Sector: Industrial.  
Employer: Mohawk College.

## Fall HOME IMPROVEMENT CENTRE

### Improving your home's curb appeal

Neglecting a home's exterior can be a disservice to homeowners, particularly those looking to increase the value of their homes. Curb appeal is important, as a home's appearance can greatly affect prospective buyers' perceptions.

Knowing which projects can offer the most bang for their remodeling buck can help homeowners make the right choices when improving the exterior of their homes. The following are some areas where homeowners can direct their focus if their end goal is a great-looking home with added value, as determined by the 2019 "Cost vs. Value Report" from Remodeling magazine.

This report compares the average cost of 22 remodeling projects with the value those projects retain at resale across 136 markets.

- Garage door replacement:

Homeowners can recoup 97.5% of their investment on a new garage door. This remodel tops the list for good looks and value. The average cost of about \$3,600 is for replacing an existing two-car garage.

- Manufactured stone veneer: Replacing a portion of vinyl siding with stone veneer can greatly improve curb appeal, adding style that can set a home apart. Homeowners can expect to recoup a 94.9% return on their investment.

- Wood deck addition: A wooden deck on the rear or side of a home enhances homeowners' ability to enjoy the outdoors year-round. A wood deck addition recoups 75.6% of the cost of homeowners' initial investment.

- Siding replacement: Not only does old or weathered siding look unsightly, it can impact the energy efficiency of a home. Even though a sid-



ing replacement project is costly — at roughly \$16,000 — it offers a 75% return and peace of mind that the home is being well-protected from the elements.

- New entry door: Replacing an existing door with a 20-gauge steel door complete with clear dual-pane half-glass panel, jambs and an aluminum threshold with composite stop gets homeowners 75% of their initial in-

vestment back at resale. Improving the door isn't all about good looks, either. A door that isn't well-insulated or secure can be problematic.

In addition to these improvements, homeowners would be wise to focus on some upgraded landscaping, an upgraded roof, new windows, and improved exterior lighting as surefire ways to add curb appeal and potential value to their homes.

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