

Chamber Honors Local Business, Agency

Lisa Watson McCarty
Publisher

One local business and a regional agency were recognized last week at the annual Business and Industry Appreciation Breakfast.

The event, sponsored by the Scott County Chamber of Com-

merce and held in conjunction with Virginia Business Appreciation Week, is held each year to allow local businesses an opportunity to socialize, connect and honor some very special businesses for their contributions to the county.

This year's recipients included the Lenowisco Planning

District Commission and a Duffield-based oil company, Little Acorn Oil Company. The breakfast was held Wednesday, May 16 in the gymnasium at the First Baptist Church of Gate City with the food provided by the Gate City High School girls softball team.

Lenowisco began operations

in 1965 as the state's first of 21 planning districts. They provide the counties of Lee, Wise, Scott and the City of Norton with assistance in water or wastewater services, transportation, housing and a wide range of other quality of life issues.

With an emphasis on regionalism, the agency most recently helped to secure Virginia Tobacco Commission funding for a regional broadband backbone to serve the area.

Little Acorn Oil was started in 1992 after Mike 'Bert' Lambert decided to go into business for himself. He had been employed in Wise County for several years by local heavy equipment distributors and in the oil industry where he garnered important business contacts.

Lambert had risen to become manager of the Commercial Petroleum of Wise, from 1986-1991, when the company was sold to an out-of-state firm. He began working as a salesman for a local oil company when his friend and business associate, Joe Savilla, extended him a line of credit that allowed him to start his own com-



Lenowisco Executive Director Ron Flanary and former director Bruce Robinette accept the award on behalf of the agency.



Mike 'Bert' Lambert holds the award given to Little Acorn Oil Company.