



DR Photo by Michael Coleman

The Sweeney-Wagnitz residence on Hidden Valley Lane earned recognition at the Vacaville Design Awards Program. The

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Vacaville honors finest designs

Third annual awards program promotes beauty in buildings

By Katherine Kam
Daily Republic Staff Writer

VACAVILLE — The city honored the best and the brightest in building design by awarding 10 new projects with plaques and certificates during a meeting Thursday at the Vacaville Chamber of Commerce.

The third annual Vacaville Design Awards Program sponsored by the city and the chamber was overseen by city associate planner Maureen Traut. The program recognizes commercial, apartment and housing projects in two categories: design achievement, which gives honorable mention to a unique design aspect, and design excellence, which commends buildings that are outstanding overall.

A 10-member design review committee named five projects in each category. The projects had to have been completed in 1986.

Chamber president Jim Farha presented the achievement awards, and Mayor Bill Carroll presented the excellence awards.

Assemblyman Tom Hannigan, D-Fairfield, showed up to praise

— The Travis Federal Credit Union building on Cernon Street and Dobbins Avenue earned recognition for the people who own the credit union and architect Dean Lillis. The two-story, red-brick building has a large covered plaza at the entry and two large magnolia trees.

— The Village Realty Building on East Monte Vista Avenue across from Brown Street earned recognition for owners Doris Hoff and Roe Campbell. Formerly a residential duplex, the building was remodeled into a Victorian-style office building.

— The Stewart-Dawson Office Building on Alamo Drive across from the new Food 4 Less earned recognition for owners Richard Dawson and Dr. Michael Stewart; architect Robert Fessenden; general contractor Hearn & Swank; and landscape designer and contractor Live Oak Landscaping. The building received a rear addition with a landscaped courtyard that the offices overlook.

— The Hidden Creek Apartments on Marshall Road just west

fountain, considered one of its most impressive features. Landscaping, architecture and the entryway also were mentioned.

— The Sweeney-Wagnitz residence at 241 Hidden Valley Lane earned recognition for owners Mary Ellen Sweeney and John Wagnitz; general contractor Sutton Construction; and designer Thomas Sampson. The house is built around a large rock that was on the site. Several large oak trees also are on the lot.

For honorable mention in design achievement:

— The Bergen Industrial Building in the Maris Industrial Park at 50 Commerce Place earned recognition for owner Bergen Homes and landscaper Marvin's Gardens Landscaping. It was cited for quality landscaping.

— The Sizzler Restaurant, Interstate 80 and E. Monte Vista Ave, earned recognition for owner Sizzler Restaurants and contractor Sierra View Construction. It was cited for complementary interior and exterior design. The restaurant has a modern design, glass atrium and skylights that lend an open effect.

— The Marshall Plaza, a shopping center at the corner of Peabody and Marshall roads

Savings and Loan Association; architect Thompson Architectural Group Inc., and contractor Stockton J&J Builders Inc. It was cited for architectural design, plus a willingness to redesign the site to save a large black walnut tree.

— The Martindale Residence, 121 Hidden Glen Court, earned recognition for owners Rick and Jeanne Martindale and contractor Essy Construction. The design committee noted it as a custom home whose design and scale are well-integrated on a hillside lot with oak trees.

City Manager John Thompson updated the group on plans for capital improvement and commercial projects in Vacaville, including a factory outlet mall deal that is expected to close this week. The brand-name, outlet mall is being developed near Interstate 80 by Willey Creek, a New Hampshire-based company.

Also, a \$5.7 million Orange Drive assessment district has been formed to serve areas such as the Lemon Tree Mobile Home Park and the Orange Tree Business Park, site of a new amusement park called the Maze. The attraction challenges participants to find their way out of a set of corridors.