

# **Mt. Prospect/Prospect Heights Daily Herald spotlights**

## **B & E Accounting Services**

### **December 13, 2007 issue**

#### **Chamber honors business leader**

By Jean Murphy | Daily Herald Columnist

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The Mount Prospect Chamber of Commerce bestowed its highest honor -- Business Leader of the Year - on a young entrepreneur who started his accounting business only two years ago and has already grown it to the point where it has about 100 personal and 40 business clients.

Richard Sassan, owner of B & E Accounting Services, Inc., 800 W. Central Road, was given the honor at the chamber's annual holiday luncheon on Dec. 6 at the Radisson Hotel in Northbrook.

Incoming Chamber President Cliff Higley of U Keep Us in Stitches presented the award to Sassan for his "dedication, hard work, civic involvement and leadership qualities," as well as for his leadership in the community with the Downtown Merchants Association, his work as a chamber ambassador and also with several charities.

Sassan, 39, said that he started his business (which is, incidentally, named after his children, Brandon and Elissa) after working for a number of small businesses' accounting departments. A 1991 graduate of Winona State University, he passed the CPA exam in 2002.

"The first thing I did when I started B & E Accounting was to join the chamber because I had no clientele and I had to get my name out there," Sassan explained. "And the chamber has been great for me. It has helped me to build relationships that have both gotten me clients and that have added value to my services. It has been instrumental in my success."

In the charitable realm, Sassan has been active with CEDA, the American Cancer Society's Mount Prospect Relay For Life and the Sjogren's Syndrome Foundation.

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