

PRESS RELEASE Contact: Jennifer Simmons

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(317) 294-8528 (m) jsimmons@citiesandtowns.org Indiana Association *of* Cities and Towns

125 W. Market St., Ste. 240 Indianapolis, IN 46204 www.citiesandtowns.org

Albion Lions Club Received 2015 Larry A. Conrad Civic Service Award

FRENCH LICK, IN. – The Indiana Association of Cities and Towns (IACT) announced Albion Lions Club as the recipient of the **2015 IACT Larry A. Conrad Civic Service Award**. This award honors the contributions made by private citizens, companies or civic organizations to municipal government. The organization received their award during the Presidents' Reception, on Sept. 30, at the 2015 IACT Annual Conference & Exhibition in French Lick.

The Albion Lions Club wanted to celebrate the Town of Albion's 60th Anniversary with a project for the whole community. The Club worked with the Albion Parks Department to determine what was needed or wanted but not financially affordable. The journey of "Operation Splash Pad" began and the Town Park Board and Town Council supported the project with open arms. The planning process included a sub-committee of Lions Club members, Park Board members, and citizens, and a series planning sessions. The fundraising started in late 2012 and the original goal was exceeded in just six months. Approximately \$150,000 was raised for the splash pad, shade structures, picnic tables and extra seating. Construction began in spring 2013 and the feature officially opened in May 2014.

"With municipal belts growing tighter and tighter, developing community partnerships has never been more important to a city or town's quality of life. I am so impressed with the leadership role the Albion Lions Club took in actively engaging with the town to ensure their service project would make a lasting impact," said IACT Executive Director and CEO Matt Greller.

In its 39th year, the IACT Annual Awards program, presented by Umbaugh, recognizes communities and individuals in municipal government for excellence and outstanding achievement. A nine-member panel of qualified judges selected this year's winners from a competitive field of nominees from around the state.



Indiana Association of Cities and Towns

The Indiana Association of Cities and Towns (IACT) is a coalition of municipal officials who seek to improve the quality of life in Indiana through effective government, and is a member of the National League of Cities. Founded in 1891, IACT is one of the oldest state municipal organizations in the country, with 470 cities and towns as members. IACT advocates for municipalities as the official voice of municipal government in Indiana, and promotes good government through education, training and leadership.

<u>Conference Facts</u>: 2015 IACT Annual Conference and Exhibition September 29-October 1 French Lick Springs Hotel and Conference Center Attendance: 800 (pending final registration count) Further information: www.citiesandtowns.org