

CETA's 2024 Community Service Award

CETA's Community Service Award is awarded to a company, its employees, or its owner(s) who have improved their community through volunteer efforts. This can be on a local, regional or national level.

CETA is pleased to announce a well deserving recipient



Schalmo Family YMCA Facility

Paul Middlecoop

President

3R Sales & Service

Submitted by Abigale Monas



When it comes to a person who is dedicated to their community, Paul Middlecoop is at the forefront of my mind. Paul has been a member of the community of Canal Fulton for over 30 years, and has continued to grow in his involvement since joining the Canal Fulton Rotary club in 1998. Throughout the years, Paul has dedicated his time, money, and hard work to events like the Mother of All Races, an annual 5/10k, the international book donation charity, the Yankee Peddler Festival, dinners at Friday night football games, working with the Youth Interact Club, and more through the Rotary Club. While this may have been where his journey began, it led him onto bigger projects for the community.

In 2017, Paul joined a committee to get a YMCA built in Canal Fulton after a good friend from Rotary asked him to help lead the project. After all, the City of Canal Fulton had been attempting to build a recreational facility for over 19 years with no luck. Paul has always had a famous saying though – “It’s not ‘I can’t’, it’s ‘How can I?’”, and so the hard work began.

After years of planning, budgeting, and applying for grants with the Y Building Facility Committee and the Y board, the YMCA was underway. Paul, at the time, also owned an insulation business in addition to 3R Sales & Service, and donated both the time and materials to insulate the YMCA facility – approximately a \$50,000 donation. Fast forward to 2020, the doors opened to the community. Today, Paul is now Board President for the Schalmo Family YMCA, donates annually to their Capital Campaign, donates Christmas gifts to all employees annually, and is an active member with the Y. The Schalmo Family YMCA now has 3600 members and is providing assistance to approximately 200 families annually in the community, offering swimming lessons to kids of all ages, providing a Silver Sneakers program for the senior citizens, and is still growing to this day.



Groundbreaking...



**Mother of All Races
Paul with his
SIL and Nephew**



**Paul with Don Schalmo (in yellow),
and two other gentlemen
involved in construction.**



**Paul & Brenda
Middlecoop**