

NOMINATE A BUSINESS...

Now Accepting Nominations for the Access is Attitude Award

Do you know an Aquidneck Island business that openly welcomes all people? If so, Looking Upwards, Inc. and the Disabilities Awareness Days committee would like to hear from you.

The Access is Attitude Award was born in 2009 to recognize a business that has shown exceptional commitment to helping make Aquidneck Island an accessible community. Yesterday's Ale House received the first award during the '09 Disability Awareness Day. A bi-annual event, the theme of the 2011 Disability Awareness Days is Disability, Accessibility and Possibilities.

You may wonder what constitutes an Access is Attitude Award-winning business. We'd like to make it easy and give you some criteria.

- Is the business located on Aquidneck Island?
- Is the business accessible to all people?
- Does the business, in your opinion, go above and beyond what may be required to create an atmosphere where all are included and treated in a friendly manner?

On an island steeped in history, we recognize that steps, uneven walkways, narrow doorways, and tight hallways are part of the challenges, and charm, that business owners may face. And yet, with creativity and commitment businesses are overcoming these obstacles. These are the businesses we want you to nominate.

If you know of a business that you feel meets these criteria please send us a short note that tells us what the business is, where it is located, and most importantly why you feel they are deserving of the Access is Attitude Award. Nominations may be emailed to Access-ability@verizon.net. Please submit all nominations by February 28, 2011. The winner will be chosen by the Disabilities Awareness Days committee and the award will be presented on April 14, 2011.

Save the Dates: **Disability, Accessibility and Possibilities** is the theme of a series of entertaining and informative public events to be held in Newport April 8-15, 2011. The series will bring the community together to enjoy the talents of people with disabilities and to deepen awareness of the challenges and possibilities that are part of creating an inclusive community.