

NEWS FROM Legislator

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Legislator D'Amaro Honors Community Volunteer Rhoda Newman As Senior Citizen of the Year



Suffolk Legislator Lou D'Amaro presents North Babylon resident Rhoda Newman, District 17's 2011 Senior Citizen of the Year, with a Proclamation during the Spangle Drive Senior Center's St. Patrick's Day Celebration Dinner Dance

(HUNTINGTON STATION, NY... March 28, 2011) – Rhoda Newman, a local resident who gives selflessly of her time to make the community a nicer place for her fellow seniors and neighbors, was recently honored by Suffolk County Legislator Lou D'Amaro (D-Huntington Station) as District 17's 2011 Senior Citizen of the Year.

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Since 2000, Ms. Newman has been an active volunteer at the Spangle Drive Senior Center in North Babylon where she currently serves as treasurer of the senior committee. She organizes many activities at the Center, including arts and crafts instruction and knitting baby outfits for single mothers. In recognition of her efforts, Ms. Newman was named the 2009 Spangle Drive Senior Citizen of the Year.

Ms. Newman also serves as treasurer for the Statue of Liberty Destroyers Escort Association, an organization that represents servicemen and women in the United States Navy and Coast Guard, and the Olive Tree Congregation. She is a long-time volunteer for the Boy Scouts of America and helped organize many local events for her sons' troops. A retired employee of the North Babylon School District, Ms. Newman received the Woman of Valor Award from the district's guidance department, as well as the Citizen Education Award from the North Babylon Teachers Organization and the Community Service Award from the New York State Teachers Organization.

The annual Senior Citizen of the Year Award was developed by the Suffolk County Office for the Aging and the Suffolk County Senior Citizens Advisory Board to recognize senior citizens who contribute to the cause of senior citizens in a "meaningful and important way." Each legislative office selects a local Senior Citizen of the Year who is then submitted for consideration as Suffolk County Senior Citizen of the Year. The County winner will be announced at the Senior Celebration Luncheon in May.

Ms. Newman was nominated for the award by Lauren Van Kirk, director of the Town of Babylon Spangle Drive Senior Citizen Center. Legislator D'Amaro surprised Ms. Newman with a Proclamation at the Center's St. Patrick's Day Celebration Dinner Dance.

"Rhoda Newman has showed unending dedication and devotion serving her fellow senior citizens and neighbors," said Legislator D'Amaro. "She has enhanced and improved the quality of life for many individuals and is an inspiration to all who know her."

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