

Local Electorate and Community Organizations Champion for Tobacco Control

Recently, at this year's Tobacco Action Coalition of Long Island's "Celebrating Tobacco Control Champions Recognition Luncheon", the Coalition's Nassau Coordinator-Carol Meschkow had the pleasure of nominating 16 honorees from Nassau County.

Ms. Meschkow reported that Town of Hempstead Supervisor Kate Murray and Town of North Hempstead Supervisor Jon Kaiman were recognized for their outstanding dedication to promoting Smoke Free Communities by creating Tobacco Free Parks and Beaches policies, restricting smoking to designated posted areas across their magnificent network of recreational amenities. Town of Oyster Bay Supervisor-John Venditto was awarded for furthering his commitment to the State's Tobacco Free Outdoor Initiative by adding a Municipal Entryway Ban. In 2002, Supervisor Venditto led the way with his proactive Ordinance restricting smoking at the Town's Parks, Beaches and Municipal Facilities. Further, Town of Oyster Bay Supervisor Venditto has demonstrated his support in partnering with Ms. Meschkow to designate a special day called "Wear White for Clean Fresh Air" to create awareness across the Town to the danger of tobacco usage. In addition, Great Neck Mayor Ralph Kreitzman was recognized as a trailblazer for creating one of only a handful of Sidewalk Bans for his Village's Commercial District. The mayor also established an Entryway Ban for all Municipal Facilities as well as a Parks Ban. The Great Neck Park District's Park Supervisor Leonard Celluro, Jr. proudly accepted their award for passing Tobacco Free policy protecting their beautiful properties. In addition, the Village Mayors of; Floral Park-Thomas Tweedy, Valley Stream-Joanne Antun, and West-



Carol Meschkow, Tobacco Action Coalition Nassau Coordinator, presents "2011 Tobacco Control Champion Award" to Supervisor Jon Kaiman for his outstanding work in supporting the State's Tobacco Free Outdoor initiative.

bury-Peter Cavallaro were awarded for their commitment to the villages' residents and employees health in passing Tobacco Free policy. "All eight community's leadership have proven themselves as invaluable supporters, who have consistently gone above and beyond in their efforts to protect the health of their residents and safeguard our youth," said Ms. Meschkow.

The following six local libraries were also honored for their work in supporting the Coalition's initiatives; Oyster Bay-East Norwich, Glen Cove, Syosset, Uniondale, North Bellmore and Rockville Centre in creating Tobacco Bans to protect their patrons from the danger of second-hand smoke, and as the hubs of their communities to help change the social norms associated with the acceptability of tobacco use.

The Village of Great Neck Housing Authority Executive Director Janice Sotero, and Valley Dream Housing Director Lucille Moran were recognized for their leadership in implementing Smoke Free Housing policies and Outdoor Bans to protect their families from the dangers of drifting and second-hand smoke.

"As a Nassau County resident, I am extremely proud and grateful for the vigor of our local champions. We couldn't accomplish the Tobacco Action Coalition's mission without such remarkable supporters," concluded Ms. Meschkow.

Port Washington Yacht Club Swim Team *(continued from back page)*

Looking forward to the league championships, we had our reservations about winning with a limited number of older swimmers. We spent such a great deal of time teaching our younger swimmers that they had the ability to take both first and second place. After trials had ended, Port Washington had 52 swims in the finals, more than any other club. We also had 10 highly competitive relays. As the meet progressed, we saw some incredible swims. Most athletes bettered their times and more importantly, moved

up in scoring places. As the final places were announced, Port Washington was named the 2011 North Shore Swim League Champions: an amazing crowning achievement to an outstanding year. Each and every athlete on this team made significant progress throughout the swim season. Each swimmer improved their endurance and their stroke technique with each practice they made. Every week, times dropped with each race they swam.

We feel this program is constantly work in progress. Each athlete on this

team made valuable contributions to our overall success. This may have come in the form of athletic ability, good sportsmanship, dedicated enthusiasm, generous flexibility, or overwhelming team spirit. I have seen these qualities in each and every swimmer on this team and that is the way that true success is measured. We believe that there is still greater potential to explore. We know that with continued hard work and dedication from each member of the team and coaching staff that the best is yet to come.

Local Exhibit

The Reconstructionist Synagogue of the North Shore, 1001 Plandome Rd., Manhasset, will be hosting an art exhibition of Great Neck resident Dorrit Title's work from Sept. 12 through Oct. 30. The artist will talk about her beautiful work, titled "Strands of Reflection," and its history at a reception on Sept. 25 from 1 to 3 p.m. All are invited and refreshments will be served. To visit the exhibit, call 627-6274 for hours.

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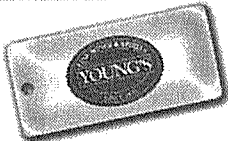
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