

NEWS



Edward A. Diana
Orange County Executive

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For Immediate Release

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Orange County Human Rights Commission Names 2011 Honorees *Seven Recognized for Efforts to Advance Human Rights*

Goshen – Established in 1970, the Orange County Human Rights Commission has a mission to serve the citizens of Orange County by fostering mutual respect and understanding among all racial, religious, and nationality groups in the County. For 16 years now, the Commission has recognized community-minded individuals who work to advance human rights in Orange County.

Orange County Executive Edward A. Diana is proud to announce the names of the seven individuals who will be presented with the 2011 Orange County Human Rights Award at the Commission's annual dinner. The seven honorees are:

Dr. Quazi Al-Tariq and Zareen Al-Tariq, Hamptonburgh - This husband and wife team were leaders in the building of the Middletown Islamic Center and work tirelessly to educate and inform in order to dispel the tensions that come with unfamiliarity.

Milagros Caceres, New Windsor - A community advocate with Latinos Unidos of the Hudson Valley, Milagros helps individuals learn how to overcome discrimination by educating them about their rights.

Linda Muller, Cornwall - As President and CEO of The Greater Hudson Valley Family Health Center Linda has worked for two decades to ensure access to health care for all in Orange County.

Jerome Christie, Middletown - A resource educator with Cornell Cooperative Extension, Jerome's dedication to providing youth programs has given young people throughout Orange County opportunities to maximize their community contributions.

Pamela Krizek, Newburgh - Pam is a literacy specialist with Newburgh Enlarged City School District who, through both her professional and volunteer work, brings diverse groups together to improve the quality of life for everyone.

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Edward McCarthy III, Salisbury Mills - A journalist and musician, Edward uses his creative talents to broaden people's understanding of the importance of securing and protecting the human rights of others.

"Good will and understanding among all residents is critical to preserving and promoting the health, well-being, and stability of our County," said County Executive Diana. "It gives me great pleasure to join with the Human Rights Commission to recognize these Orange County residents who have gone above and beyond in their efforts to protect and advance the rights of all those who live and work in our County. I applaud their efforts and extend my congratulations," added Mr. Diana.

The Human Rights Commission's 16th annual award dinner will be held Thursday, April 14 at the Falkirk Estate and Country Club in Central Valley. Human Rights Commissioners Kara Dorsey and Dr. Hubert Lee are co-chairing the event. Dinner tickets are \$40 and reservations are required. For tickets or more information, contact the Human Rights office at 615-3680 or visit the Human Rights Commission's Department page on the Orange County website at www.orangecountygov.com.

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