

NEWS



Edward A. Diana
Orange County Executive

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For Immediate Release

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County Exec Diana, Legislature Recognize County's Outstanding Seniors *Pine Island's Gurda Senior of Year, Washingtonville's Radcliffe for Contributions*

Goshen – At the June meeting of the Orange County Legislature, County Executive Edward A. Diana and Chairman of the Legislature Michael R. Pillmeier honored two Orange County senior citizens for their outstanding commitment and contributions to Orange County.

Stanley Gurda, of Pine Island, was named 2011 Orange County Senior Citizen of the Year. Florence Radcliffe, of Washingtonville, was recognized for Outstanding Contributions by a Senior Citizen. Orange County residents age 60 or older who volunteer in the County may be nominated for these awards.

“On behalf of the residents of Orange County, it is my privilege to congratulate Stanley and Florence for being recognized as senior citizens of distinction,” said County Executive Diana. “It is our good fortune that they call Orange County home; they serve as outstanding role models for people of all ages,” added Mr. Diana.

Mr. Gurda has served as president of the Pine Island Seniors club for 15 years. During that time, he has grown the club from 40 members to 125 and has a waiting list of at least 25. Club activities include bowling, cards, bocce, shuffleboard, and other activities at the Warwick Stone House. In addition to his club work, Mr. Gurda has been an EMT with the Pine Island Ambulance Corps, served on the Town of Warwick Planning Board, and is active in his church. He has been honored as the New York State Jaycee Outstanding Farmer of the Year and Pine Island Citizen of the Year.

Ms. Radcliffe has volunteered at the Valley View Center for Nursing Care and Rehabilitation three to four days a week for more than 15 years. She's known as the “can-can” lady because she collects bottles and cans and returns them for the deposits and then puts the money toward prizes for BINGO games at the Center. In addition to working with Valley View's Activity Department, Ms. Radcliffe volunteers in the gift shop and bakes cakes for monthly birthday celebrations.

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Chairman Pillmeier remarked, “Stanley and Florence have incredible energy that belies their status as ‘senior’ citizens. I applaud their efforts and thank them for all that they have done, and continue to do, to ensure that all residents of Orange County continue to enjoy an outstanding quality of life.”

The annual Senior Citizen recognition awards are coordinated each year by the Orange County Office for the Aging and the Senior Council. For more information, contact Ann Marie Maglione, Director, Orange County Office for the Aging at 615-3706 or by email at amaglione@orangecountygov.com.

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(Front row) Ann Marie Maglione, Director, Orange County Office for the Aging; Outstanding Contributions by a Senior award winner, Florence Radcliffe; Orange County Senior Citizen of the Year, Stanley Gurda; Orange County Legislator Katie Bonelli; County Executive Edward A. Diana. (Back row) Chairman of the Orange County Legislature Michael R. Pillmeier.