

Oneida County Office for the Aging/Continuing Care 2010 Older American Awards in Summary

Oneida County Office for the Aging and Continuing Care held their Older American Awards Dinner May 20, 2010 at the Roselawn Banquet House. The month of May was proclaimed by County Executive as Older Americans Month by proclamation. The winner of the 2010 Senior Citizen of the Year Award was won by Edward W. Jackson. Mr. Jackson is very involved in his community with the following groups: Parkway Senior Center, Boys Scouts and Girl Scouts of America, African American Advisory Committee, Cornhill Development Commission, Oneida County Branch NAACP, American Legion Post 229, Leah Street Block Association, Big Brothers, Cornhill Community for Change, St John's Catholic Church, AmeriCorps Vista Community, regular writer for the Utica Phoenix and letters to the Editor for the Observer Dispatch only to mention a few. As winner of the Senior of the Year Mr. Jackson was invited to the Governor's Mansion on May 5, 2010 to the annual Older American's Event honoring seniors from every county in New York State. Other senior nominees recognized for their services to our community are: Marge Anweiler, Annette Barber, Mary Jean and Stanley Boris, Kathy Brown, Laura Brown, Carolyn Burney, Theresa Cackett, Johanna and Salvatore Carriero, Anna Rose Catello, Sister Marsha Chmielewski, Angela Cook, Joseph Curcio, Ann DiFabio, Patricia Douglas, Carmella Edwards, Charles Ernst, Arveda Failing, Ruth Gilbert, Liz and Pat Gubbins, Helen Handzel, Father Philip Hearn, Emmett A. House Jr, Sandy Inman, Gene Korzec, Bertha Lawson, Eugene Penner, Ceil Lupinski, Chester and Loretta Mandry, Joseph Mazzatti, Jean McBride, Yolanda Mesagna, John Montrose, Marge Mortis, Evline and Roddie Murad, Ressie Nesbitt, Bonny Niles, Selinda Ogradnik, Patricia O'Toole, Janet Owens, Eda Pendorf, Milo Pennock, Dominick Pepe, Rose Rich, Stella Romas, Lucy and James Rondinelli, Eileen Spellman, Virginia Synkowski, Anne Urbanik, Angela Z. Vanderhoof, Gladys Young, Jeanette Williams, and Florence Wood,

The winner for Outstanding Contribution by an Organization Award was won this year by the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) of Oneida County. RSVP mission is to provide volunteer opportunities for people age 55 and over in a variety of settings throughout their communities. RSVP volunteers provide services that utilize their talents and interests. There are over 300 volunteers countywide supporting over 70 non-profit organizations. Other nominees for the Organization Award for their services to our community were: AARP Defensive Driving Volunteers Program, AARP Income Tax Assistance Volunteers, BOCES (Patricia Lennon and students), New Hartford Teachers Association, Rome Rescue Mission, and Utica College Gerontology Program.

Office for the Aging also recognized our intergenerational youth group Volunteers for 2010: BPOE Utica Lodge 33, Washington Mills Boy Scout Troop 14, East Utica Optimist Club, Deanna Ferro, Sarah Hainey, Hamilton College HAVOC, Hamilton College Women's Basketball Team, Brian Hartnett, Kiwanis Club of Utica, MVCC Habitat for Humanity, MVCC Phi Theta Kappa Society, MVCC Student Congress, Notre Dame Boy's Basketball Team, Oneida Youth Inc., Eric Otto, Mary Powers, Proctor High School Key Club, Proctor High School Young

Scholar Program, Proctor High School Youth Construction Initiative Program, Rome Free Academy Football Team, Slavic Pentecostal Youth Organization, Utica College Black Student Union, Utica College Physical Therapist Society, Utica Municipal Housing Authority Teens and Dreams Program, VVS High School Interact Club, and YMCA of Greater Tri-Valley Teen Leaders Program. The Office for the Aging would like to thank the sponsors of the event Bentz & Amodio Funeral Services, Inc., Coriale Flowers, Fidelis Medical Advantage, Home Depot, Inc., Mohawk Valley Community Action Agency, Parkway Drugs, Pumpernickel Deli & Catering Co.

The Office for the Aging would like to thank Prestige Services for a delicious dinner and Office for the Aging Staff who catered to everyone's needs during the event.