

WESTCHESTER RISING

FRIDAY, JANUARY 21, 2011

HPCW Volunteer Inducted into Westchester Senior Hall of Fame



(L to r): HPCW Volunteer Coordinator Mary Jane Schaumann, Westchester Commissioner of Senior Programs & Services Mae Carpenter, Deputy County Executive Kevin Plunkett and volunteer and Senior Hall of Fame honoree Sue Loomis, at the Westchester County Department of Senior Programs & Services annual award ceremony

Sue Loomis, a Somers resident and volunteer for Hospice & Palliative Care of Westchester (HPCW), was recently inducted in the Westchester County Senior Hall of Fame in the Special Recognition category.

The Hall of Fame was established in 1982 by the County's Department of Senior Programs and Services and, each year, honors seniors for their contribution to the community. Loomis was recognized for her numerous volunteer efforts, which include spending time with HPCW patients. In addition to visiting with HPCW patients who reside at Somers Manor Nursing Home, Loomis also visits HPCW patients in their homes.

"As a volunteer for HPCW, Sue's strong listening skills have enabled patients to open up and express their feelings of pain, fear and loss of control," said HPCW Volunteer Coordinator Mary Jane Schaumann. "Sue acknowl-

edges and respects the care that the facility staff provides to all Somers Manor residents."

"Spending time with hospice patients is extremely fulfilling," said Loomis. "Each patient is unique and special, and I could not ask for a more rewarding opportunity."

Hospice volunteers play a vital role in the lives of patients by providing them and their families with dignified support, comfort and companionship. Volunteers are trained for more than 20 hours before becoming patient visitors to ensure they are well versed in each patient's special needs.

HPCW is located at 311 North St., Suite 204, in White Plains. For additional information, visit www.hospiceofwestchester.com or call 914-682-1484. For more information specifically on volunteering, contact Schaumann at 914-682-1484 ext. 116 or at MJSchaumann@hospiceofwestchester.com.