



PRESS RELEASE

Longwood Central Schools

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Longwood School Board Honors Community Volunteer



Gail Bailey, president of the Longwood Alliance, accepts the *Carl Verdi Community Pride Award* from the Longwood School Board. From left are: School Board Members William K. Miller and Frank Muraca; Vice President Daniel Tomaszewski, Mrs. Bailey, President Michael A. Loguercio, Jr.; and School Board Members Philip Reany, Jr., Maureen E. Silvestri and Genine M. Schwinge.

MIDDLE ISLAND – The Longwood Board of Education has presented their *Carl Verdi Community Pride Award* to Gail Lynch-Bailey, a long-time volunteer in the Longwood community and the president of the Longwood Alliance since 2006.

The award is presented annually to recognize a person who, over a sustained period of time, has built lasting bridges between the school district and the community, according to School Board President Michael Loguercio, Jr.

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Gail Bailey – add one

Mrs. Bailey began her volunteerism in the community as a Cub Scout den leader in 1989, a youth soccer mom and PTA volunteer at West Middle Island Elementary School in 1994. She and her husband Frank are the parents of two sons, Brendan and Trevor, both graduates of Longwood High School.

She progressed through PTAs as her sons were promoted through the district's schools, eventually coming to serve as the president of the Longwood PTA Council. She was an integral force in the passage of bond votes to upgrade and expand the district facilities.

Vice President Daniel Tomaszewski called Mrs. Bailey an "institution" and a "pillar of the community," noting her determination and hard work dedicated to the creation of the Veterans' Memorial project at Bartlett Pond Park. The park honors all of the veterans of the Longwood community, dating back to the Revolutionary War.

"It is such an honor to be joining the ranks of the three previous recipients of the Carl Verdi Community Pride Award," Mrs. Bailey said, noting that Tom Lyon, Paul Infranco and Carl Verdi were all present for her ceremony.

Typical of Mrs. Bailey, she praised the work of others and credited her mother, who was also present, for inspiring her and serving as her role model.

"I would not be here tonight without the help of so many of you whom I've been privileged to work with and come to love along the way. From civics and church and scouts and schools, thank you all for being part of my community pride," she said.

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Gail Bailey – add two



Recipients of the *Carl Verdi Community Pride Award* are congratulated and thanked for their service to Longwood by the school board officers. From left are: Vice President Daniel Tomaszewski, recipients Tom Lyon (2010), Carl Verdi (2008), Gail Bailey (2011), and Paul Infranco (2009); and President Michael A. Loguercio, Jr. Mr. Tomaszewski referred to the volunteers as “Longwood’s Dream Team.”