

EUGENE POLICELLI SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENT HISTORY

Year	Award	Recipient	Description
2019 - 2020	Citizen Award	Bart Pacekonis	<p>Bart Pacekonis has made a big difference in the lives of businesses, families and athletes through his leadership and active involvement with the Planning & Zoning Commission, the Open Space Task Force, and the South Windsor Soccer Club. Through his work on both the Planning & Zoning Commission and the Open Space Task Force, Bart has been instrumental in determining the future growth of South Windsor, striking a “balance between development and land/water conservation.” Patricia Botteron, Open Space Task Force Chairperson, “Bart presents himself professionally and diplomatically, possesses impeccable communication skills, and demonstrates the utmost commitment to this town.”</p> <p>Bart has also served as a South Windsor Soccer Club volunteer since 1999. He has been a volunteer Coach, Division Director, and Tournament Coordinator. According to Gary Schoedler, the Director of Coaching for the Soccer Club, over his 15 years with the club, Bart has “helped provide a positive soccer experience for more than 3,000 players, volunteering in excess of 14,000 hours.”</p>
2019 - 2020	Citizen Award	Roseanne Sapula	<p>Roseanne Sapula has impacted the lives of young adults and families in South Windsor through her active involvement with the Monday Night Social Club, the South Windsor Special Olympics, Breakfast with Santa and many other related local events.</p> <p>While working on the Boundless Playground in 2007 with Dan Rezende, a previous recipient of the Policelli Award, Roseanne learned about the Monday Night Social Club – a group of 40 special needs individuals, high school age through older adults, who meet at the Teen Center every Monday night. From that first night, Roseanne was hooked on the love and strong bond between the participants and adult volunteers. She quickly called this group her “calling,” and has gone on to expand programming to include a Halloween Dance, monthly Birthday Celebrations, and the yearly picnic sponsored by the Rotary Club.</p> <p>Through her related volunteer work with the Special Olympics, Roseanne has raised funds, participated in the Penguin Plunge, and has helped with weekly track and field practices and bowling. The group nicknamed her the “Girl on Fire” because of her high energy level. According to one of the athletes, “Special Olympics makes us feel special and is made special by an extra special lady named Roseanne Sapula. We just love her.” Roseanne is “a devoted volunteer, friend, and elf, but mostly our angel.”</p>
2019 - 2020	Student Award	April Alver	<p>April Alver is an active member of the South Windsor High School community. In addition to being an honor student and student athlete, she has volunteered countless hours through her involvement in National Honor Society, the CATS squad, SADD, Interact, and South Windsor for the Kids.</p>

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			<p>April was specifically nominated for the Policelli Award for her contributions as a Peer Mental Health Educator, a representative of Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD), and the “Community Ambassadors Transition Squad” (CATS), a student group that helps incoming freshman transition into life at the high school. While most students are not accepted into CATS until they are juniors, April was recommended as a freshman and selected to be on the Executive Board as a senior. She was in charge of planning the 2018-2019 freshman orientation, and then organized and ran a club fair for 9th graders to promote the importance of student involvement.</p> <p>April was a member of SADD for three years, and served as the Co-President during her senior year. April was selected to be a Peer Mental Health Educator. On her own time, April became certified in Peer Mental Health, a certification which allowed her to serve as a resource for other teens. She coordinated the presentation of a school-wide video addressing teen anxiety, and spoke with students about ways to reduce anxiety and find available resources inside and outside of school. April’s commitment to this club educated her school on mental health disorders and helped to create a more accepting community.</p>
<p>2019 - 2020</p>	Student Award	Matt Dion	<p>In addition to volunteering for his church and participating in CFC Premier Soccer, Matt Dion is a volunteer for Challengers Basketball, a program for youth with special needs. He served as a friend and mentor to youth who might not otherwise get involved in formalized activities. It was stated that Matt is someone who “shows up every Saturday with a huge smile” and he goes “above and beyond to make a connection with others. He works hard but does it effortlessly.”</p> <p>Matt has also volunteered a lot of his time to South Windsor for the Kids, a student group at South Windsor High School. He has been on the Executive Board and has been responsible for setting up and running fundraisers for the program. In partnership with the Connecticut Children’s Medical Center, he and fellow committee members organized a special dance for children with cancer.</p> <p>And last, but by no means least, Matt is a long-time volunteer with Unified Sports. Unified Sports joins people with and without intellectual disabilities on the same team. Matt has been a coach and a player, and attended both home and away games with the athletes. During his senior year, Matt served as a team leader and played a more active role in leading the activities with the athletes.</p>
<p>2019 - 2020</p>	Student Award	Olivia Porcello	<p>Olivia Porcello has a resume filled with dedicated and long-standing community service and participation in a host of service activities, including Hockey Players for Kids, South Windsor for the Kids, R.A.C.E., the Drug Free School Committee, Autism Awareness, and the Connecticut Children’s Medical Center. She is also an honor student, class officer and student athlete. Olivia is the President and founder of the high school’s Diversity Committee, R.A.C.E. (Respect And Change Everywhere). She created this committee following her participation in the “Anytown” leadership</p>

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			<p>program in 2016 which focused on social justice topics such as racism, sexism, religion and disabilities. She worked hard to celebrate diversity within the school, creating videos and posters to promote awareness and understanding among her peers.</p> <p>Olivia is also a four-year member of the school's Drug Free School Committee, serving as President during her senior year. The Drug Free School Committee is focused on keeping drugs out of school by promoting activities such as the annual Volleyball Marathon.</p>
2018	Citizen Award	Ginny Hole	<p>With a concern about safe passage through town Ginny approached the Parks & Recreation Commission to point out the need for more ways in which bicycles and pedestrians could safely travel through town. She then became the founding member and chairperson of South Windsor Walk and Wheel Ways (SWW&WW), an official sub-committee of the Parks and Recreation Commission. Under her direction the group has participated in Connecticut Trails Day, Full Moon Walks, park clean-up events, Bike to Work Day and a variety of bicycle clinics. She wrote several grants to enable a 6.2 mile trail, which begins in South Windsor and ends in East Windsor, to be created. Ginny was also instrumental in helping to establish the Grade 4 Bicycle Safety education program. She provided bicycling expertise during curriculum development and organized a large number of adult volunteers to support the Physical Education teachers during the yearly experience. Ginny became a League of American Bicyclist Certified Instructor to help teach the program as well. She worked tirelessly to encourage the purchase of a fleet of bicycles for use for the grade 4 students. To date more than 1600 students have completed the program and have learned invaluable lifelong skills.</p> <p>For twenty-five years Ginny has been a member and past President of the South Windsor Community Women's Club. She ran the long-standing Arts & Crafts Fair on the South Windsor green, was active on the club's Education committee, served on the Sunshine committee and was involved in many fundraising events.</p> <p>Ginny also served the Boy Scout Troop 390 as a troop leader, committee member, secretary and outdoor event leader. During these years she worked on the creation of several trails in town. Most importantly she worked diligently to teach the scouts about the value of serving their community and instilled values about making ethical choices.</p>
2018	Citizen Award	Jay Samsel	<p>Jay began volunteering for the South Windsor Fire Department as an Explorer in Post 838 and rose to the position of Lieutenant. Jay then served as a firefighter and spent 8 years in the Rescue Squad. He then became captain of Company 1 with responsibilities in Operations and Tower 1. He served on the Social Committee for one year as vice-president and one year as president. Jay currently</p>

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			<p>holds the position of Captain of Facilities. He volunteered to work with an Eagle Scout to help rebuild the memorial garden at the fire headquarters. Jay's service to the Fire Department spans 34 years and during these years has served as liaison from the fire department to civic organizations. He received the President's Award which is given to a member who exemplifies the brotherhood and social aspect of Fire Services.</p> <p>Jay has also volunteered for South Windsor sports teams. He served as assistant and head coach for softball and head coach for soccer. He also coached T-ball, Little League and Senior League. Before Parks & Recreation became responsible for the town fields, Jay would voluntarily rake the diamond area of the fields before practices and games.</p> <p>Jay often serves as the liaison to numerous organizations in town. In this role, he has participated in many events in support of Special Olympics and the Monday Night Social Club. He has helped with the Touch a Truck event, the Penguin Plunge and Haunted Torch Walk. Besides his invaluable gift of time he has also provided sponsorship for events.</p> <p>Besides serving on the Board of the Directors for the Wapping Cemetery Association, Jay acted as liaison between the association and American Legion Post 138 for the Wreaths Across America program. He paved the way for the program to work seamlessly with respect for the Veterans and the cemetery association. Additionally, Jay helps transport half of the more than 1000 wreaths and then assists the Boy Scouts and community volunteers lay the wreaths on the graves of our local Veterans.</p>
2018	Citizen Award	Lincoln "Linc" H. Streeter	<p>Linc has had a lifetime of service to the South Windsor community. He served on the Town Council as a member, deputy mayor and mayor. He served on the citizen action committee that prevented the low-level radiation dump from coming to South Windsor. He also served as Secretary of the Capital Region Council of Governments (CCROG) which helped bring programs to South Windsor that otherwise would be cost-prohibitive.</p> <p>Linc was a founding member of the South Windsor Community Foundation. The foundation provides funding and fiduciary responsibilities for the South Windsor community. He was responsible for developing roles and responsibilities for the executive board and also for identifying membership on the Board of Directors and the committee. He worked tirelessly to educate businesses and town officials of the objectives of the foundation. Through his work, the foundation has been able to provide support for educational programs and community enhancements.</p> <p>As a member of the US Air Force Captain (Ret.), Linc served our country in the Vietnam War. He is a member of the Korean, Vietnam and Saudi Wars Chapter 1 (VKVSW). Linc is also a member of the American Legion and has served as an honor guard, participated in Memorial Day and</p>

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			<p>Veteran’s Day services and assemblies and has spoken with students in Civics classes and at elementary schools programs. As a member of the Patriotic commission he attends all Veteran’s services. Linc has also served as a mentor helping with job placements and support groups for Veterans.</p> <p>As a midget football coach, Linc had the opportunity to not only introduce young players to the game but more importantly impart the benefit of hard work and teamwork as well as the importance of not only winning but losing graciously.</p> <p>Linc served as a trustee of the ECHN Community Healthcare Foundation. The foundation is a non-profit charitable giving program that raises funds to improve medical treatment for those without insurance.</p> <p>Since 1978, Linc has been a member of the South Windsor Rotary Club and is committed to the “service above self” work of the club. He served the club as president from 1990-1991. As a member he is active in the club’s bi-annual auction which is a fundraiser that provides finances for scholarships for SWHS students, funding for community programs such as Kevin’s Kourt at the Boundless Playground and lighting of the baseball fields behind the community center.</p> <p>Linc also spearheaded a golf tournament fundraiser to assist a young father who suffered from a medical emergency. The profits from the tournament helped to purchase a van equipped for the needs of this young father.</p> <p>The town of South Windsor is indebted to Linc Streeter for his selfless service.</p>
2018	Student Award	Hannah Elizabeth Abernethy	<p>Hannah began volunteering long before high school through Wapping Community Church. As a senior youth member she is known as someone who is hard working, organized and welcoming to new members. She has volunteered on mission trips which have exposed her to the needs of people not only at home but in other states as well. Hannah has worked in soup kitchens in Boston and through an organization called “Cradles to Crayons” helped to organize toys which were donated to children. In a small town in Virginia, she helped with the building and painting of houses for women who were affected by domestic violence. In South Dakota she worked with an organization called “Simply Smiles” for which she planned a summer camp, helped build a greenhouse and a sidewalk for the playground.</p> <p>Hannah was a member of Interact, an international student service club sponsored by the South Windsor Rotary club. Interact supports community organizations by volunteering for local events. While a member, she volunteered for an elementary school carnival, Wood Memorial Library’s Gingerbread Festival and the Kid’s Fair sponsored by the South Windsor Community Women’s Club.</p>

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			Throughout high school, Hannah was a member and now serves as co-president of the Anti-Bullying Club. She worked to have the club collaborate with Interact on anti-bullying efforts. The club was responsible for creating “cards of kindness” which were given to fellow students as well as creating a YouTube video on the subject of anti-bullying.
2018	Student Award	Katelyn Renee Hunter	<p>Katelyn is often described as a person who cares deeply about what she volunteers for and it is evident in everything she does.</p> <p>Katelyn is actively involved in the Bobcat Pride Organization at South Windsor High School and now serves as co-president. This group works on events and activities that help to unify both school and community and promote a positive school culture.</p> <p>For four years, Katelyn served as a member and leader of the Students against Destruction Decisions organization. In her role, she worked on a variety of activities that help send important messages about making safe decisions. As an invested member of SADD, she was involved in anti-bullying awareness, the Prom Promise, and decorating liquor store bags with safe decision messages.</p> <p>As a member of the Community Ambassador Transition Squad, Katelyn planned and ran 5 late arrivals for freshman which helped them to adjust to South Windsor High School. She also planned and helped implement freshman orientation and ran activities on PSAT day for freshman.</p> <p>For five years, Katelyn helped with the in-house lacrosse program for students in grades K-2. Within a short time she became leader of the student coaches. Her leadership role had her setting the practice plan, running practices and organizing the work of the other student coaches. Additionally she was responsible for helping students understand the life skills necessary to play a team sport which includes fairness and good sportsmanship. For South Windsor’s Girls Lacrosse Katelyn helped coordinate Lax Jam, a jamboree hosted by South Windsor. This event has players participating from 10 local towns and Katelyn coordinated the schedule for referees for the elementary and middle school girl’s teams.</p> <p>Katelyn was one of two student leaders who organized the South Windsor for the Kids club. The club’s purpose is to fundraise for the Connecticut Children’s Medical Center. Katelyn was involved in planning and implementing 4-5 fundraising events per month as well as the annual Dance Marathon. A remarkable total of more than \$11,900 was donated to CCMC from the group’s yearlong efforts.</p>
			<p>Rachel has a well-developed ability to organize and lead and she brings those skills to all of her volunteer endeavors.</p> <p>As President of the National Honor Society, Rachel helps facilitate every event that is associated</p>

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2018	Student Award	Rachel Violette	<p>with NHS. Each member is required to attend 4 community service events and create a long term service project. In her role, she oversees all thirteen committee service projects. Some of the group work of NHS included volunteering at the MACC soup kitchen, helping at the Haunted Torch Walk, and tutoring students - just to name a few.</p> <p>As a senior, Rachel is a member of the Rho Kappa Honor Society. For four years, she has been in the Model United Nations Club and this year served as the Committee Chairperson for the UNICEF: Right to Education committee. She has volunteered at the freshmen mock United Nations simulation and because of her experience she is able to help younger students follow parliamentary procedure and engage in insightful conversations between delegations.</p> <p>Rachel is passionate about her work on the Students against Destructive Decisions club. She has helped with the annual SADD Makes You Happy Day which has members of the club doing simple acts to spread positive messages to both staff and students.</p> <p>As a member of Interact she was on the Pennies for Patients committee. She also volunteered in the classroom at an elementary school helping both the teacher and her students.</p> <p>Rachel is serving as this year's co-president of the South Windsor for the Kids club. Whether planning a dodgeball tournament or restaurant community night, she is involved in all of the details necessary to hold a successful event. Her leadership has inspired more students to be involved than any other year as well as a great number of teachers to help with events. She has reached out to the community and after they learned about the work of the club welcomed the opportunity to make donations to events. All of the fundraising from this club is donated to the Connecticut Children's Medical Center and this year's donation was more than \$11,900.</p>
2017	Citizen Award	Sandra C. Jeski	<p>Sandra Jeski was born and raised in South Windsor and has spent more than four decades making a difference in our community through her voluntary service. Whether donating her gift of time to our schools, her church or our community, Sandra is always dedicated and conscientious. Sandra has served on the South Windsor Agricultural Land Preservation Council for 13 years studying issues concerning farmland, open space and land use. This work helps to enhance the quality of life for all residents by providing areas for passive recreation and the preservation of wildlife. She dedicates her time to organizations that seek to help others and in turn has helped to shape the landscape of our town.</p> <p>She is a member of the town's Community Emergency Response Team and is certified to help members of our community in the event of a natural or manmade disaster. She served on the Historic District Commission helping to preserve the historical character of local properties. Sandra is currently South Windsor's Town Historian, and was instrumental in establishing the South Windsor Beautification Committee. She has also volunteered for Wood Memorial Library and the South</p>

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			<p>Windsor Haiti School project. She has been on the parish council for St. Francis of Assisi Church where she has worked on the Immaculate Conception Shelter's food committee and yearly auction fundraiser committee. As a volunteer driver for FIST (Friends in Service Together), she has helped hundreds of local seniors get to their medical appointments.</p> <p>Last but not least, Sandra has been instrumental in the success of the South Windsor Farmer's Market. Four years ago she became the Market Master and has worked tirelessly in that role. In addition to her hours of preparation before and at the market, she also visits other local markets bringing back information on how to improve. In the 2016 season more than 18,000 visitors came to shop and in turn helped to contribute an estimated \$263,000 to our local economy.</p>
2017	Citizen Award	Daniel W. Rezende	<p>Daniel Rezende is genuine, sincere, approachable, and has great wisdom. When you meet anyone who has had the pleasure of his company that is what you will hear. More than 30 years ago, the Recreation Department began the South Windsor Adaptive Games, now known as the Monday Night Social Club. The club embraces the needs of the special needs population aged 14 years and older, and Dan has been involved since its inception. The goals of the group are to provide social connections and opportunities for friendship which were not readily available. Dan's contributions go above and beyond his role as supervisor of this group. He works tirelessly to promote an environment of support, respect and fun for its members. He continually reaches out to the community to engage volunteers who can enrich the program. His love and passion for this group extends not only to the club's participants but to their families as well. He also encourages the members to participate in the South Windsor Olympics of which he has been involved for more than 23 years. He also organizes an Open Gym every Friday night so that his athletes can continue to engage in social and physical activity throughout the year. As a coach, he is a constant cheerleader for "his kids" by helping to train, support and celebrate their victories. Dan has also volunteered more than 3,000 hours over a period of 40 years for the Little League and American Legion baseball organizations. He has served as Manager, Coach and League Director. His players and their families refer to him as "Chief," a term of endearment and a sign of respect for what he has done for them. More than 1,000 players have worked with Dan and always describe as a man of great integrity, dedication and kindness.</p>
2017	Student Award	Emily J. Appleton	<p>As a middle school student, Emily became involved in the South Windsor Haiti School project by making posters that were seen throughout the community. As a high school student she continued her involvement by sitting on the Board of Directors and holding the office of Secretary. As one of the student representatives she helped bring a different perspective to the discussions and decisions made by the board. Emily is also a member of the National Ski Patrol and volunteers at Mount Southington. She is responsible for assessing a guest's injury, providing appropriate care and promoting safe skiing by enforcing safety rules. Her work helps to ensure the enjoyment and safety</p>

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			for all patrons. Emily has gone above and beyond to receive additional training. She is certified as a professional rescuer for both CPR and AED and for Chair Lift Evacuations and Avalanche rescues. As a member of the Ski Patrol, Emily has taken on a leadership role in helping to educate new patrol candidates and is often the first to arrive at the scene which puts her in charge of the care of the injured guest. In May 2016, she was awarded the Young Adult Patroller of the Year for the Connecticut Region and placed 13th overall in the Eastern Division. Additionally, she has volunteered for the CT Special Olympics Winter Games. In her role she helps her athlete get to their specific event and get onto the chair lift. Emily then skis down the mountain by his or her side providing encouragement and assistance. She has demonstrated great empathy for others, and possesses a warm and engaging personality which are a perfect match for working with athletes with disabilities.
2017	Student Award	Lindsey Cartier	When Lindsey's name is mentioned, you often hear her described as organized, dedicated, inspiring and a pleasure to work with. Throughout her high school years, she has served her school and the community in a variety of capacities. As a sophomore, Lindsey was one of the class officers at South Windsor High School. She was involved in all facets of their activities, from helping to design a class T-shirt to taking a leadership role in organizing their very successful fund-raising activities. Lindsey also served as an officer on the Student Council, where she helped plan and implement a Holiday Party open to all young people in South Windsor. She worked countless hours before the event to plan the activities in addition to organizing the volunteers needed to make the dance successful. This fundraiser has netted more than \$1,000 which was donated to the Jimmy V. Foundation for cancer research. From 2014 to the present, Lindsey has led the "South Windsor for the Kids" organization which raises money for the Connecticut Children's Medical Center through a dance marathon. Under Lindsey's leadership, the South Windsor for the Kids organization has donated more than \$17,000 to the Connecticut Children's Medical Center.
2016	Citizen Award	Andrew Paterna	Mr. Paterna has spent a lifetime advocating healthy living in his personal and professional life as well as through his extensive volunteer endeavors. His easy-going manner, intellect and strong leadership skills have helped him to institutionalize programs while highlighting the many gifts provided by our local farming communities. Mr. Paterna served on the South Windsor Parks and Recreation Commission for 11 years and was involved in all of the programs of that commission. In 2012 he formed the South Windsor FOOD Alliance, which became a sub-committee of the Parks and Recreation Commission. He has served as chairperson since its inception. Through his leadership, the FOOD Alliance took over the South Windsor Farmer's Market which has grown to now having 50 vendors and serving over 1,000 people per week. The market has engaged South Windsor High School students as volunteers while providing an outlet for both local farmers and artisans. During the market, monetary and food donations to benefit the South Windsor Food and Fuel Bank are also

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			<p>accepted.</p> <p>Mr. Paterna has worked closely with our town departments, community organizations, schools and citizens young and old to advocate for healthy lifestyles and the value of locally grown foods. His advocacy efforts to preserve, protect and make accessible healthy foods will make for a healthier South Windsor community and we are grateful for his efforts.</p>
2016	Citizen Award	Art Sladyk	<p>Mr. Sladyk is often described as soft-spoken and selfless - one who has a deep dedication to family, faith, friends and his community. His lifetime of service is a testament to his reputation. Whether coaching his children, working as a scout leader or working with his wife to organize their Relay for Life Team "Nickels for Nan," Mr. Sladyk always freely gives his time, organizational skills, dedication and leadership to benefit others.</p> <p>As Commander of the South Windsor American Legion Post 133, Mr. Sladyk has planned and implemented fundraisers to provide financial assistance to South Windsor veterans. He also organizes the members who volunteer at local nursing homes, sports ceremonies, community events and food drives. As a member of the South Windsor Patriotic Commission, Mr. Sladyk was instrumental in securing funding for the Memorial Wall at Veteran's Memorial Park. His dedication to the respectful remembrance of our community's veterans is commendable and the Memorial Wall is a testament to his work.</p>
2016	Student Award	Briana Marie Cotton	<p>Throughout middle and high school, Briana Cotton volunteered for a variety of organizations that support children with hearing loss and their families. Briana has always been willing to share her personal experiences to benefit others and is an articulate advocate and role model for the hearing impaired. She volunteered for the Alexander Graham Bell Association, an international organization that provides support to individuals and families who are hearing impaired but who use oral spoken language. Briana was a member of the "We're All Hear Together" club at SWHS which helped other deaf teens find</p> <p>effective solutions to difficult situations. She also worked within this group to collect over 100 assistive sight and listening devices that were donated to the Lion's Club. Briana was chosen as a delegate to the Connecticut Youth Leadership Program, which resulted in the planning and implementation of a fundraiser for the Connecticut Children's Medical Center.</p>
2016	Student Award	Michael W. Fialkoff	<p>Michael Fialkoff is a young man with extraordinary leadership skills and an exemplary personal desire to help others. He joined the SWHS Interact Club in his sophomore year, and quickly became very involved in the club's service projects and fundraising events. In the summer of 2015, Michael went to the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Reservation in South Dakota with the Simply Smiles group from Wapping Community Church. During this week-long volunteer experience Michael was</p>

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			<p>involved in building infrastructures to help improve living conditions for those who live on the reservation. He was also involved in a mentor-through-play program with the children. Michael has also served in a leadership role in the National Honor Society, first as a junior representative and then as President. He was involved in both personally executing community service events as well as delegating responsibility to the membership. He helped tutor students for elementary Math Nights; he organized bi-monthly volunteers for the Cornerstone Soup Kitchen in Manchester; and he coordinated all of the blood drives at South Windsor High School. As a member of SWHS Students Against Destructive Decisions, he helped plan and implement the annual seat belt check, the Prom Promise project and the annual Healthy Relationship display. Michael has had a positive impact on his school and the South Windsor community by utilizing his strong leadership skills and his personal desire to make a difference.</p>
<p>2015</p>	<p>Citizen Award</p>	<p>Jean Hopley Klein</p>	<p>Upon moving to South Windsor in 1974, Mrs. Klein immersed herself in the South Windsor community. She volunteered at Wood Memorial Library, and went on to develop and present historical programs and a series of lectures and field trips focused on archaeology and agriculture for both adults and children. Mrs. Klein was also instrumental in organizing the Barney Daley artifact collection into the library's database. She spearheaded the Oral History Group which has been active in recording and transcribing the oral histories of South Windsor residents. The Wood has created a scholarship in her name that allows students from neighboring communities to visit the library to experience the Native American program. Working closely with South Windsor teachers, Mrs. Klein created a Native American experience for students at her home which included a model Native American village wigwam, cooking demonstrations, classes and games. She also created a mock archeological dig to help students determine what era they were "discovering." Mrs. Klein was an active and contributing member to the South Windsor Historic District Commission. As a member of the South Windsor Historical Society, she was instrumental in helping to purchase the Pleasant Valley Schoolhouse which remains one of South Windsor's treasures.</p>
<p>2015</p>	<p>Student Award</p>	<p>Jeanette Porcello</p>	<p>Jeanette has an astute understanding of what volunteering can do to help others. She also has strong leadership skills which were honed while serving as a delegate to Laurel Girls State and as a representative of South Windsor High School at the Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Conference. Since 2012, Jeanette has been on a Relay for Life team called Hope Dream Relay which has donated more than \$4,000 to the American Cancer Society. She also volunteered at the Connecticut Children's Medical Center, assisting the administrative staff and working on arts and crafts with the children. Throughout high school Jeanette volunteered for Autism Families CONNECTicut, which provides recreational programs for children on the autism spectrum. Jeanette has worked with children in swimming, open gym, the running club program and music therapy activities. She also developed and organized six fundraising events handling all of the details from inception to completion.</p>

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			Jeanette has a deep love of music and a keen understanding of the opportunity it can provide to help self and others. The parents of her best friend created the Hannah Elizabeth Patrie Scholarship in honor and memory of their daughter. With the desire to support the scholarship fund and celebrate her friend's life, Jeannette planned her first fundraising event. In 2013, she organized an auction and entertainment for the event which netted more than \$7,000 for the scholarship fund. She went on to plan several other fundraisers with live musical performances and donated an additional \$10,500 to the South Windsor Dollars for Scholars – Hannah Elizabeth Patrie Memorial Scholarship fund.
2015	Student Award	Jennifer Samsel	Jennifer is known as a person who shows great dedication and maturity in all she does. She has been a member of the South Windsor Fire Department's Explorer Post 838 throughout her high school years, volunteering a minimum of 12 hours per week. Jennifer is involved in weekly drills, assistance on fire calls and representing the Fire Department at a variety of community events. She has been a very active member of the department holding leadership positions as both a line and social officer. She has also received the Explorer of the Year award and has attended and graduated from the Connecticut Fire Academy ITTFS and ASAC classes.
2014	Citizen Award	Alice Marie Pandozzi	Alice Marie Pandozzi has served the South Windsor community for more than 40 years. Whether volunteering for school, library, church or community events she is known as a capable leader who brings out the strengths and abilities of all who work with her. She has volunteered countless hours and raised tens of thousands of dollars to benefit so many in our community. Among her many accomplishments, Alice Marie was instrumental in the grass roots effort to re-open Wood Memorial Library after the public library opened. She worked on the subsequent incorporation of the Friends of Wood Memorial Library, a privately funded public library. She served on the Board of Trustees, and provided leadership for the historical home tours, craft shows, book sales, Christmas fairs, and the committee to make the library handicap-accessible. She has been involved with the Wednesday Afternoon Club, the South Windsor Historical Society, and St. Francis of Assisi Church. Alice Marie believes that all acts of kindness help create a better community. Using her gifts of grace, optimism and enthusiasm she has led many in our community to make South Windsor a better place.
2014	Student Award	Nicole Cartier	Nicole Cartier is one of those remarkable people who is always there when needed, but never seeks the limelight. Nicole was a member of Students Against Destructive Decisions club where she helped deliver education and prevention messages through school and community activities. Nicole was also a member of the Buddies Club. In her role she visited Wapping Elementary School to work side by side with first and second grade teachers to become buddies and instructional aides to their students. Nicole's most extraordinary gift is the ability to "pay it forward." As a young child, Nicole became very ill and was hospitalized. She spent 225 days in the hospital and 6 months in intensive care on life support. She endured 40 surgeries and spent over 100 hours in an operating room. Nicole feels a deep sense of responsibility to help others receive the care that she did. As a volunteer for the

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			Children’s Miracle Network, she assisted with donation processing, stuffing and mailing communications and creating contact lists for fund-raising events.
2013	Citizen Award	Maureen E. Bourn	In 1968, Mrs. Maureen Bourn began teaching third grade at Pleasant Valley Elementary School. The Social Studies curriculum had not yet been developed so with her love of history Mrs. Bourn set out to change that. For many years she met with older residents and gathered their stories. She also gained permission to bring the students on a day-long field trip to see the places they were learning about which included the Pleasant Valley Schoolhouse and a walking tour of Old Main Street. Mrs. Bourn felt it was important for students to gain a sense of pride about the place they live and she would often hear students say that they would “remember this day forever.” Mrs. Bourn developed a new Social Studies unit concentrating on the Paleo, Archaic and Woodland Indians who once lived in South Windsor. Through five areas of study, students learn about what they ate and how they used stone and plant material. Students also have an opportunity to view the wigwam and artifacts located at Wood Memorial Library and take a hayride and walk along Newberry Road towards the Connecticut River. Mrs. Bourn has worked closely with Wood Memorial Library and the South Windsor Historical Society in her pursuit of helping both students and adults learn about South Windsor history. She has been an active member of the library’s Program Committee and is a trained docent that can often be seen giving tours of the library or the Pleasant Valley Schoolhouse wearing a hand-made costume. Mrs. Bourn has served the South Windsor community well beyond her role as a teacher and has remained a devoted volunteer since her retirement in 2004.
2013	Citizen Award	Howard “Hap” E. Fitts	Mr. Fitts has served the South Windsor community for 48 years through a variety of Boards and Commissions. He served on the Town Council, and was mayor from 1967 through 1971. He also served on the Emergency Medical Services Commission and Personnel Board of Appeals. Mr. Fitts was on the Public Building Commission acting as its chairman for most of his tenure. After his retirement from a 52-year career at Travelers, Mr. Fitts continued to lead the United Way campaign for retirees which brings in \$35,000-\$40,000 per year. Mr. Fitts has served the greater community as a Manchester Memorial Hospital corporator and board member. He continued his service on the board of trustees at the formation of the Eastern Connecticut Health Network and served as chairman from 2002-2005.
2013	Citizen Award	Edward F. Havens	Since moving to town in 1960, Mr. Ed Havens has been an integral part of the South Windsor community. Through his work as a local business owner, an elected official, a founding member of the South Windsor Chamber of Commerce, the Rotary Club and his church, he has always exhibited honesty, grace and professionalism. Mr. Havens served on the town council for 17 terms, and served as mayor for four of those terms. He also served on the Planning and Zoning and Economic Development commissions. Mr. Havens is known for his humility as well as the ability to vote his conscience for what is best for the citizens of South Windsor. He loves this community and it shows

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			in all he does. In World War II, Mr. Havens served on Liberty ships that crossed the Atlantic. When the town was establishing a memorial to war veterans, he donated money to purchase the statue that now stands at Veteran's Memorial Park. Mr. Havens generously contributes each year to sponsor a Little League team and the annual Easter Egg Hunt. Over the years, thousands of children have benefitted from these contributions. As a member of the South Windsor Rotary Club, Mr. Havens is involved in raising money that is given to charitable organizations including scholarships for South Windsor High School students. For his exemplary volunteer service he received a Paul Harris award, the highest achievement given to a Rotarian.
2013	Student Award	Emma M. Richard	Throughout her four years of high school Emma was involved in multiple activities to serve her school, the town of South Windsor and our state. She was a recipient of the Connecticut Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership award for her actions to make the community a better place. She was also chosen to represent South Windsor on Congressman Larson's First Congressional Youth Cabinet, as well as the Commissioner's State Student Advisory Council on education. In the Youth Cabinet, Emma was considered an effective voice on issues facing our youth and insightful in her policy recommendations for federally funded youth programs. Emma also served on the School Climate Committee for South Windsor High School which discussed ways to end bullying and promote positive school climate. Emma was instrumental in organizing and leading the effort to sensitize others to the issues of bullying through an anti-bullying campaign.
2012	Citizen Award	Patricia Botteron	Mrs. Botteron has shared her professional nursing experience by volunteering for the Mass Dispensing Agency which provides health services at times of pandemic crisis. This agency serves the towns of Windsor and South Windsor. She has also volunteered for the American Red Cross since 1979, teaching CPR, first aid and rescue techniques to both laymen and professionals in the healthcare field. Mrs. Botteron is also a kind and caring neighbor. She initiated a 58-household neighborhood watch and remains captain to this day. Her efforts have created a culture of open communication and support for her neighborhood. Her most notable contribution to this community is as chairman of the Open Space Task Force. Under her leadership a master plan was developed and approved by the town council. She worked tirelessly to procure ten million dollars through three referendums and \$600,000 through grants from the Department of Environmental Protection. Mrs. Botteron is diligent in her efforts to educate the citizens of South Windsor about conservation and land preservation. Through these efforts nearly 500 acres of land has been acquired and preserved as open space.
2012	Citizen Award	Cile Decker	For more than 40 years, Ms. Decker has been committed to improving the quality of life in South Windsor. She has held numerous volunteer, elected and appointed positions in government, business, education and the arts. In each position she has provided thoughtful and intelligent contributions. She provides an invaluable perspective as a result of her extensive service to our town. Ms. Decker has served on both the board of education and the Town Council. During her tenure on

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Year	Award	Recipient	Description
			<p>the board of education she was involved in many school improvement projects that included the establishment of a football team, a program for gifted students, and town-wide curriculum enhancements. She served as vice president of the South Windsor Haiti School project, the Wood Memorial Library and Museum, and the South Windsor Community Foundation. Ms. Decker has also served on the board of directors for the South Windsor Voices committee, the Tri-Town YMCA, the South Windsor Chamber of Commerce, and the Connecticut Women’s Alliance. In 2009, when the South Windsor Chamber of Commerce held its first Women’s Conference, Ms. Decker suggested that the proceeds from the conference be donated to Interval House, the largest domestic violence organization in the state.</p>
<p>2012</p>	<p>Citizen Award</p>	<p>Brigadier General (retired) James Throwe</p>	<p>General Jim Throwe has been a resident of South Windsor for more than 50 years and during that time has served his community willingly and enthusiastically. He has a strong belief that it is his responsibility to speak out on issues that affect the citizens of South Windsor. He has a reputation of being a man of “integrity and honesty.” General Throwe was a member of the town council and served as mayor from 1965 to 1967. As mayor, he provided leadership through many important changes in South Windsor. Some notable improvements were selecting the site for the new town hall, building Timothy Edwards Middle School, and establishing a police department. From 1970 to 1977, he served as chairman of the South Windsor Sewer Commission. Through the efforts of the commission, a sewer plan that served 90% of the town was built. Since 1970 General Throwe has been a member of the South Windsor Rotary Club. During that time he served as the club’s president and received a Paul Harris Award.</p>

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Year	Award	Recipient	Description
2012	Student Award	Megan Gauer	<p>Megan Gauer volunteered in her school, church and community throughout her high school years. Whether working with younger students or her peers, Megan navigated towards supportive roles. She willingly shares her time, talents and abilities to help others succeed.</p> <p>Through the Jump Start tutoring program, Megan worked one-on-one with a student at the middle school helping to complete homework assignments, study for exams, organize folders and develop time management skills. She also volunteered for the high school Tutor Program where she worked with peers reviewing geometry material in an effort to improve the understanding of concepts. Additionally, she was a volunteer at the Hartford County 4H Camp where she assisted the counselors with all camp activities.</p> <p>Megan has also held several leadership roles. For the Interact Club, she was the chairperson for the Broken Dreams fundraising campaign. At St. Mary Margaret Church she was a bible school instructor and served as co-president of her Youth Group. Megan also volunteered for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life for six years held the position of team captain for two of those years. Megan is an effective and caring leader who has volunteered more than 400 hours during her four years at South Windsor High School.</p>
2012	Student Award	Janki Viroja	<p>Janki Viroja came to South Windsor as a student who did not speak English. Her experience gave her great insight into the challenges of ELL students. When looking for a personal service project for National Honor Society, Janki knew that she wanted to help others who were facing the same challenges she had. She planned and implemented two community gatherings for those who were not native English speakers. Her goal was to help families feel comfortable with American schools, the language and culture. Janki has also volunteered for three departments at St. Francis Hospital where she assisted patients and provided clerical help to the staff. For several years, Janki volunteered for the summer reading program at the South Windsor Public Library. In her role, she would interact with elementary students inquiring about what they read and helping them to track their success. Janki was attentive and encouraging to the young readers. As a member and leader in the Interact Club, Janki worked on various programs, including raising money for Broken Dreams and Hope for Haiti. As an officer she organized club members to support community events such as the Longest Dinner Table.</p>
2011	Citizen Award	Noel Asselin	<p>Dearly loved, highly respected, admired by his friends, humorous and kind are some of the accolades you hear when someone is speaking about Mr. Asselin. For more than 20 years, Mr. Asselin has been the gatekeeper of the "Setback for Seniors 55 and older." On Monday afternoons and Wednesday evenings, Mr. Asselin organized and ran the setback league, welcoming more than 60 card players with a smile and his twice weekly newsletter. His newsletter included the player's standings,</p>

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			sometimes sad and serious news about fellow players, and his famous jokes. His gestures spread joy, friendship and companionship for all who attend. Mr. Asselin devotes an enormous amount of time to this group including planning four to five social gatherings per year. Jonell Holley, Senior Center program coordinator, says "it is impossible to estimate the good will, intellectual stimulation, joy and social opportunities" that he has given seniors through his dedication to this endeavor.
2011	Citizen Award	Elizabeth Love	Mrs. Love has been volunteering in various capacities for more than 20 years. She had been involved with the PTO, sports groups, and Wood Memorial Library.....just to name a few. Just six years ago, she was asked to join the board of directors for the South Windsor Community Foundation. Through the foundation she helped create the South Windsor Public Education Fund. As a result of her leadership, the Education Fund has raised over \$100,000 and has donated more than \$30,000 in grants for education and enrichment programs for South Windsor students. Mrs. Love was instrumental in bringing the Longest Dinner Table fundraising event to South Windsor. This fundraiser has become a much anticipated annual event that has teachers, parents and community members enjoying each other's company while raising money to benefit the students of South Windsor.
2011	Citizen Award	Elsie Pelton Woolam	Mrs. Woolam is a tireless volunteer whose compassion is evident in everything she does. For 27 years she has volunteered for FISH, providing countless community members door-to-door transportation to their medical appointments. As a member of the First Congregational Church, she has been involved in or headed almost every committee. For more than 50 years, she has volunteered for the South Windsor Historical Society where she has held positions on the Board of Directors, served as a past President and served on the Union District School Restoration and Heritage Day committees. As an administrator of the 4-H camp of Hartford County, she has provided memorable camp experiences for thousands of local children. Mrs. Woolam is involved in all facets of the camp's operation from camp registrations, fundraising, supervising, opening and closing of the facility and sometimes personally caring for the horses at her home. While serving on the board of directors at Wood Memorial Library she gained a reputation as a wise and thoughtful voice. Whether she is leading a group or working behind the scenes Mrs. Woolam will be working quietly to make a difference.
2011	Student Award	Rebecca Rose Liebman	Rebecca Liebman was a Girl Scout for 13 years. After receiving the Silver and Bronze Awards, Rebecca pursued her Gold award by organizing a beautification project at Donnelly Park, creating social events for Alzheimer's patients living at a local nursing facility, and planning and implementing the first newspaper club at Timothy Edwards Middle School. Rebecca is a compassionate young woman. She volunteered for the Make a Wish Foundation's weeklong program in Kissimmee, Florida where she provided cheer to terminally ill children during their 26 hour train ride to the Give Kids the World program. Rebecca, along with her family, organized the second annual Soldier Appreciation Dinner. She coordinated the volunteers and donations of food and

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Year	Award	Recipient	Description
			decorations so that local veterans, servicemen and their families could enjoy a dinner in their honor. Rebecca is very interested in the environment and pursued reinstatement of the Environmental Club at South Windsor High School. She coordinated a recycling program at the high school and coordinated an Earth-a-Palooza event which brought awareness of environmental issues to the community.
2010	Citizen Award	John Pelkey	For more than four years, John Pelkey worked as the fundraising chairman for the Boundless Playground committee. Throughout the process he worked tirelessly addressing volunteer groups, attending fundraising events, making calls to garner support, and physically helping when the building began. Under his leadership \$400,000 was raised and South Windsor now has a beautiful recreational space that is accessible to all residents. Mr. Pelkey has also made many substantive contributions to sports and sporting facilities in town. He was instrumental in getting a grant from the state that allowed the Recreation Department to refurbish the Ellsworth gym which is used for basketball leagues. Mr. Pelkey again offered his expertise as fundraising chairman for the indoor batting and pitching facility, a \$150,000 project. Mr. Pelkey has proudly served the South Windsor community as a member of the town council and served as Mayor. During these years, he created a Citizens Matching Mini-Grant program which provides matching funds to those who want to enhance a physical or civic based program in South Windsor. He also worked hand-in-hand with the local fire department to create the first multi-family evacuation plan for the State of Connecticut.
2010	Citizen Award	Cary Prague	Mr. Prague served the South Windsor community through a wide variety of organizations and events. His love of the South Windsor community is well known by all who knew him. He was a selfless individual who offered his personal and professional expertise whenever needed. He worked tirelessly for Special Olympics to promote and support special events such as the Penguin Plunge, Cop on Top, and Tip a Cop. He served on the charter committee to help form what is now the South Windsor Community Foundation. At South Windsor High School he supported the Robotics program by providing funding, sponsorship and PDA hardware to help students gather data needed for their projects. He was also a volunteer teacher at South Windsor High School where he designed, wrote and taught computer database and programming curriculum. For the Recreation Department, Mr. Prague developed and donated a customized computer program for the basketball draft, and he sponsored many Recreation Department programs such as Cinema VMP, Cinema on the Hill concert series and legion baseball. For the South Windsor Historical Society he designed, produced and erected signs to promote Heritage Day. For Wood Memorial Library, he served in a variety of capacities to support the Golf Tournament fundraiser. As a member of the Rotary Club, he helped raise money for South Windsor High School scholarships, organizing a food and water drive, and for the Rotary auction.

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Year	Award	Recipient	Description
2010	Citizen Award	Joan Walsh	Mrs. Walsh has a long history of service to the South Windsor community. She began volunteering in support of our schools. When her children were young she volunteered at her children's school through the PTA. She went a step further and developed bowling teams that donated money to the elementary schools. Enough money was earned to purchase a piano for Eli Terry Elementary. In the 1970's she was appointed to a citizen committee that studied overcrowding at the high school, a project that was instrumental to the building project for the new South Windsor High School. She also helped create a Marge Anthony Scholarship that provides support to a student pursuing a nursing career. Mrs. Walsh served on the Democratic Town Committee, and has engaged the committee in many service projects that have benefitted the community (including support for children in need, a senior citizen luncheon, and the Christmas Breakfast with the proceeds being donated to the food bank). She has been an active member of the South Windsor Historical Society and served as Treasurer for ten years. She is chairman and tour guide of the Pleasant Valley Schoolhouse on Ellington Road. She maintains the property year-round, performing jobs such as painting, cleaning and shoveling snow. She also leads tours and staffs the schoolhouse with volunteers during tourist season.
2010	Student Award	Veda Chau	Veda was a member of the Interact Club for three years and served as the club's vice-president and president. Throughout her tenure, she worked diligently to find a variety of ways for the club members to serve their community. Veda was also a Jump-Start tutor at Timothy Edwards Middle School. In her role she worked one-on-one with a middle school student helping with homework, organization skills, studying for upcoming tests, and sharing good homework habits and study skills. Veda also helped recruit new tutors for the program and has taken on additional students when necessary. Veda volunteered in the Fetal Diagnostic Medicine Department at St. Francis Hospital. In her role she provided support to both patients and the clerical staff.
2010	Student Award	Anna Chinsky	Beginning in third grade Anna began to be inspired by volunteers working together through her association with the American Cancer Society. She became involved in the Relay for Life in honor of her beloved Aunt Karen. By grade five Anna became a team captain, organizing friends and family to become the top fundraising team. Anna was on the planning team for the South Windsor/Rockville Relay for Life in her sophomore year. In 2009, Anna had the privilege and honor of being the Master of Ceremonies. Anna and her team raised in excess of \$40,000 for the American Cancer Society. As a sophomore Anna joined the Interact Club where she became actively involved in a variety of service projects that benefitted adults and children throughout our community. By her junior year Anna became the club's president. Anna researched, designed and implemented an outreach program to inform the South Windsor school community about the work of the Haitian Health Foundation.

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Year	Award	Recipient	Description
2009	Citizen Award	Elizabeth Warren	Mrs. Warren has a long history of service to the South Windsor community. She began volunteering at Philip R. Smith Elementary School in 1966 and served until 1973. From 1974-1980, she served on the Library Board of Directors, and from 1969-1981 she volunteered for the American Field Services, an International Student Exchange Program. In 1981, Mrs. Warren began her notable service on the Inland Wetlands/ Conservation Commission where she provided support and guidance for projects on town owned land which include the Major Michael Donnelly Land Preserve, Wapping Park and the Podunk River corridor. In 1987, the Town Council created the South Windsor Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Commission. As a member of this Commission Mrs. Warren actively promoted open space funding referendums, providing estate planning seminars for farmers and supporting the purchase of open space land by the town.
2009	Student Award	Rebecca Lazinsk	Rebecca Lazinsk has been described as an outstanding leader and someone who makes a difference in whatever she chooses to do. She has been involved with the American Cancer Society and the Relay for Life for the past eight years. She has served as a team captain, organizer of student activities at the event, liaison from South Windsor High School and the 2009 co-chairman. Rebecca was the recipient of the Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership Organization award as a sophomore. She continued to volunteer for the HOBY organization as Director of Membership and also served on the Board of Directors. At South Windsor High School, Rebecca is co-president of the Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) group. With Jennifer Anderson, Youth and Family Services Counselor, she co-wrote a grant proposal from the "Do Something" organization. They received the grant and used the funds to host a parent/teen night on safe driving skills, reckless driving prevention and a seatbelt check program. Rebecca also served as a representative to the Regional Connecticut Chapter of SADD.
2008	Citizen Award	Louise C. Evans	Mrs. Evans served the South Windsor community in many capacities for more than 40 years. She volunteered for several organizations continuously since the mid 1960's and often served as an officer. From her work on the League of Women Voters, the South Windsor Historical Society, Wood Memorial Library, the public library, St. Peter's Episcopal Church, the Audubon Society, the Down to Earth Garden Club and several boards and commissions, Mrs. Evans earned a reputation as a devoted, hard-working volunteer. Mrs. Evans worked tirelessly to preserve South Windsor's physical landscape. Through her work on the Conservation Commission she was responsible for dredging and developing a marshy area behind Philip R. Smith School; preserving open space land by Town Hall; and most importantly for developing the town's first open space plan. As the liaison to the Open Space Task Force she combined her extensive knowledge of Planning and Zoning with her personal and academic interests in biology, the environment and ecology to help coordinate efforts for the betterment of the community. She was involved in the maintenance of the Nevers Road Park community gardens and the sensory garden at the Boundless Playground.

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Year	Award	Recipient	Description
2008	Citizen Award	Roy C. J. Normen	Mr. Normen has an extensive record of service to the South Windsor community. As a past Town Council member, he provided leadership in budget management and was instrumental in establishing the Total Quality Management process in town government. As an Open Space Task Force member he organized a committee that supported a successful \$4 million referendum to provide funds for open space acquisitions. He also assisted in an analysis of the cost effectiveness of purchasing open space versus residential development which continues to be used in support of open space purchases. Mr. Normen is a founding member of the South Windsor Community Foundation. He worked with community leaders to enlist their help in forming this charitable nonprofit organization. The Community Foundation has provided fiduciary services for the Teambuilding and Leadership Center Ropes Course, the Boundless Playground and the baseball batting facility. Mr. Normen was also instrumental in forming the South Windsor Public Education Fund which provides grants for projects and programs that enhance South Windsor's public education. Mr. Normen was named a Paul Harris Fellow, the highest honor bestowed on a Rotarian for exemplary community service.
2008	Student Award	Romana Haider	Romana Haider was involved in a variety of service projects through both school and community organizations. As a member of the South Windsor High School's Human Relations Committee, she worked on fundraising activities that provided assistance to the Southeast Asian Tsunami, South Asian Earthquake, and Darfour relief funds. Through the Pakistani American Association of Connecticut's youth group, Romana volunteered in many capacities including registering voters, providing an anti-bullying workshop, and participating in a Peace Rally at the State Capitol. Romana pursued her Girl Scouts Gold Award by focusing on the need to educate children about other cultures and diversity. For her project, she wrote two children's books in a series, entitled Sara and Michael's World Travels, which are about two children who travel to different countries. In addition, she planned and implemented the First Annual South Windsor Cultural Awareness Day which was open to the public. The event featured booths representing the cultures of China, India, Greece, Poland, France, Peru and Pakistan.
2008	Student Award	Alison M. Marinelli	During high school, Allison Marinelli positively impacted the lives of many through her willingness to reach out and help. As a hearing impaired student herself, Alison was an advocate for the needs of hearing impaired students. She was a volunteer presenter at regional conferences for educators on the subject of audio enhancement and regularly conducts informational seminars to help teachers gain an understanding about equipment that is vital for hearing-impaired students to learn. Alison has also presented to educational staff at the New England Center for Hearing Rehabilitation on the subject of support services. She was also an active volunteer and respected leader in her school community. She exhibited strong leadership skills and was one of two students who received the prestigious Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership Award in her sophomore year.

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Year	Award	Recipient	Description
2008	Student Award	Ashlee Audrey Sam	Ashlee Sam has been involved in many service activities in both school and the greater community. She volunteered as an assistant at the YMCA community pool and in Hartford Hospital's physical therapy department, and volunteered countless hours for "Arts Alive," a non-profit organization dedicated to raising money to provide arts education to disadvantaged children. Ashlee is a talented vocalist who willingly shares her gift with the South Windsor community and beyond. She has performed for local senior citizens with a Broadway group and can often be heard singing the National Anthem at community events. At both fundraising and community events, Ashlee is always willing to lend a hand with whatever needs to be done to ensure success. In her junior year, Ashlee planned, implemented and performed in a benefit concert for the Juvenile Diabetes Association. The concert was hugely successful and netted \$2,500. Ashlee also received a Cox Cable award for outstanding achievement in community service from Susan Bysiewicz at the State Capital.
2007	Citizen Award	Herbert Asplund	Mr. Asplund has been an active member of the South Windsor Land Trust and was their representative to the Open Space Task Force from 2001-2007. The task force is an advisory committee that raises awareness of land and water conservation and preservation issues. He was instrumental in helping the South Windsor Land Trust conserve, protect and maintain valuable land for future generations. Mr. Asplund served on Wood Memorial Library's Board of Directors and was chairman of the annual golf tournament, a major fundraiser for the library. Mr. Asplund has been an active member of the South Windsor Rotary Club since 1999. During his tenure he helped initiate the SWHS Interact Club. He also served as one of the tri-chairmen at the Rotary auction, the proceeds of which are donated to local, regional and international service projects in addition to providing approximately \$18,000 per year in scholarships to SWHS seniors. For his exemplary volunteer service, Mr. Asplund received the 2006 Paul Harris Fellowship Award; the highest honor awarded a Rotarian.
2007	Citizen Award	Daria Plummer	Mrs. Plummer worked tirelessly to engage students in service to their community through service learning projects. She believed that her students possessed the gifts and talents to help others. Mrs. Plummer developed strong relationships with individuals and agencies that depend on volunteers to accomplish their goals. She spent countless hours working with community agencies to plan projects that could engage her students. Through her guidance, hundreds of students learned how to serve their community. Working with the Patriotic Commission, the Abe E. Miller American Legion Post #133 and local veterans, students prepared written commentaries, engaged in interviews and learned patriotic songs for Veteran's Day and Memorial Day assemblies. Through her connection with the Senior Center, students learned about the needs of shut-in seniors and created special gift boxes for Valentine's Day. She developed a Read Across America celebration that extended beyond the classroom by including local and state dignitaries to join the Wapping Elementary School staff and students in celebrating literacy. Mrs. Plummer has a deep appreciation for the rich resources within our community and shares that with her students. Through her leadership community

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Year	Award	Recipient	Description
			members have become an integral part of preparing her students for their role as citizens.
2007	Student Award	Jennifer Wolff	Jennifer Wolff was a very committed volunteer who served her school and greater community in various capacities. For the Out to Pasture Animal Hospital, she created an informational PowerPoint presentation which they used to educate potential donors. At East Hartford's animal shelter, Conntrail Kennels, she assisted staff members by walking and exercising animals. For three years, Jenny volunteered at the Teddy Bear Clinic at a local hospital. The clinic's purpose is to familiarize young children with the hospital setting and help them to feel less intimidated about their hospital stay. At South Windsor High School Jenny was known for her leadership and dedication to helping others. She served on a town-wide committee to plan a two-day program on the subject of youth drinking and driving. She provided the student voice which helped to insure the program was tailored to the needs of the students. After a tragic accident of a fellow student, Jenny took a leadership role as the group redesigned the program in light of the tragedy. Jenny also worked over 100 hours on the Mr. South Windsor High School program sponsored by the National Honor Society.
2007	Student Award	Justin LeConche	Justin LeConche has an extensive resume of service to his school and community. He served on the town-wide committee for Broken Dreams, an anti-drinking and driving program, and worked on development of the story line and produced music for the video. For the Unified Theatre program, Justin helped develop the plot and script, worked on costumes and props and assisted special needs actors in two productions. In his junior and senior year, Justin developed and produced music and choreography for the Mr. South Windsor High School program and served as co-host for the event. Justin was president of the Interact Club; under his leadership, the club donated holiday gifts to children and families under DCF care, provided a \$1,000 donation to Save the Children's Pakistan Earthquake Fund, provided a \$600 donation to a mission that is building schools in Ghana, and partnered with the Senior Center for an Intergenerational Fashion Show and its annual "Ring in the New Year" holiday party. In addition, Justin has volunteered to help many elderly residents with a variety of odd jobs such as mowing lawns, removing trees and brush, and painting.
2006	Citizen Award	Ernest Hintz	Mr. Hintz distinguished himself as an outstanding citizen who quietly worked behind the scenes for a variety of community service organizations. He is known as someone who is hard working, knowledgeable, insightful, and devoted to the South Windsor community. As a member of the Lion's Club, he served on many fundraising committees, the board of directors, served as president and chaired and coordinated the eye glass collection in South Windsor. Mr. Hintz was a member of the Super Sixty Sportmen Club where he served as the club's secretary for three consecutive terms. During his tenure he was involved with the yearly fishing derby and the fall and spring clean-up of Nevers Road. Mr. Hintz was also an active member of the South Windsor Historical Society and served on the Union District School Building Committee, the Heritage Day Committee and the Executive Board. In 1997 Mr. Hintz was named the South Windsor Chamber of Commerce's

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Year	Award	Recipient	Description
			“Businessman of the Year” for his devotion to the community and countless acts of humanity. He also received the Connecticut Pharmacists Association’s Bowl of Hygeia award for outstanding community service by a pharmacist.
2006	Citizen Award	Janice Snyder	Mrs. Snyder has worked tirelessly for the town of South Windsor and its young people through elected and appointed positions and her volunteer work. For five years, she was on the PTO council and served as its President, Vice President and Secretary. She was also the PTO council’s event chairperson for the Together for Technology program which provided technology resources to the elementary schools. As a member of the Lion’s Club, Mrs. Snyder brought the Leo Club, a student service club, to Timothy Edwards Middle School. As chairperson for South Windsor High School’s Operation Graduation committee, her organization and efficiency allowed students to enjoy a fun, safe, substance-free graduation celebration. Mrs. Snyder was one of the founding members of the South Windsor Community Foundation, which is a non-profit corporation that accepts grants and donations and administers funds for charitable community projects and programs. From 1999-2003 Mrs. Snyder served on the town’s Strategic Planning Committee which worked to identify town-wide issues and set goals for the town of South Windsor. She has also served on the town’s Capital Project committee which is a group comprised of Board of Education members, Town Council members and staff who monitor and make suggestions for capital projects for the town.
2006	Citizen Award	Craig Zimmerman	Mr. Zimmerman has dedicated countless hours to youth sports in South Windsor. For over 25 years he organized and fundraised for the boy’s travel basketball program. Mr. Zimmerman has also been the General Manager and primary fundraiser for the American Legion Baseball Program. He served as president, zone chair and was elected as the state chair of American Legion Baseball. Mr. Zimmerman has also chaired the fundraising committees for the lighting of Rotary Field and building of the Ralph Giansanti press box. Mr. Zimmerman advocated for improvements on the town’s athletic field at town council meetings. He also served on the Parks and Recreation Commission and served as its chair for several years. Mr. Zimmerman has selflessly dedicated his time to coaching, advocating and fundraising for youth sports in South Windsor. He is very well respected for his dedication and his ability to accomplish whatever tasks he undertakes.
2006	Student Award	Craig Gimbrone	Craig Gimbrone was a volunteer at Wood Memorial Library through his high school years and provided over 300 hours of service. Craig followed a family tradition of service to Wood Memorial Library. He assisted with a variety of activities including the very successful book sales, children’s programs, concerts and special events. Craig created a digital photo archive of the library’s collections, artwork and architectural details, and archive that is used for the library’s multimedia presentations, website offerings, and insurance records. Craig developed spreadsheets to document the digital images and worked with the staff and volunteers to train them on use of this invaluable tool and advising them on its potential uses. Through his affiliation with the Boy Scouts, Craig also

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Year	Award	Recipient	Description
			provided 300 hours of service to the South Windsor community. He helped build the flag court in the historical cemetery, worked on the South Windsor High School courtyard renovation and walkway project, and assisted with annual food drives.
2005	Citizen Award	Mary Theresa Kyc	Ms. Kyc has been involved in a wide variety of volunteer organizations over the past 30 years and has a special interest in South Windsor history and preservation. She served as historical advisor, president, program chairman and board member for the South Windsor Historical Society. She served as a docent at the Pleasant Valley Schoolhouse District 5, and organized historical memorabilia displays for both the Wapping Fair and town hall. During her tenure on the South Windsor Historic District Commission, Ms. Kyc was instrumental in having Main Street designated as a Scenic Road. She served as a member of the Historical Society's antique shows and Christmas home tour committees, served on the Patriotic Commission, and volunteered at Wood Memorial Library. In 1998, she received an award in appreciation of her volunteer service that was presented by former Mayor Marianne Lassman Fisher and Town Manager Matthew Galligan. At the time of her award, Ms. Kyc was also serving as the Town Historian.
2005	Citizen Award	Jean Monsees	Mrs. Monsees has been described as a "kind and giving person, and a very dedicated and enthusiastic volunteer." As an active volunteer for the Friends of the South Windsor Library she co-chaired the Book Sale Committee and was an invaluable asset in their fundraising efforts. She served on the committee that worked on the library expansion in 1995. In addition, she has been involved in the hospitality efforts for concerts and programs for Wood Memorial Library and South Windsor Cultural Arts committee. Mrs. Monsees has been delivering meals for over eleven years with the Meals on Wheels program. She also volunteers for FISH, an organization that provides rides for local residents. Through these organizations and her church, Mrs. Monsees has been involved in extensive humanitarian efforts. She has gained a reputation as a person who is always planning or performing a good deed.
2005	Citizen Award	Romeo J. Richard	Mr. Richard was an active participant in volunteer organizations since 1956. As the unofficial town photographer, he took photographs of events and activities throughout South Windsor that are now archived at Wood Memorial Library. Mr. Richard also donated his tie pin collection to the South Windsor Historical Society. He was the founder of the Super Sixty Sportsmen Club and through this club initiated and organized the annual senior picnic and fishing derby. He was also involved the club in South Windsor's "Adopt a Road" program. For over thirty-five years, he was a hunter safety instructor for the State of Connecticut. He served as an auxiliary fireman for the city of Hartford, and served the South Windsor Fire Department as a photographer. Through FISH, Mr. Richard provided rides to local residents. Mr. Richard was the recipient of the prestigious Rotary Club Paul Harris award for his service to our community. He was one of the few non-Rotarians to have received this award. Mr. Richard also received a proclamation from the Town of South Windsor and a citation

EUGENE POLICELLI SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENT HISTORY

Year	Award	Recipient	Description
			from the State of Connecticut for his volunteer service.
2005	Student Award	Emily Love	Emily was an active volunteer in both her school and community. Beginning in her sophomore year, she served as a counselor for the Hartford County 4H Camp and as a teaching assistant for vacation bible school at St. Peter's Episcopal Church. As a gifted performing artist Emily shared her talents in the "Every 15 Minutes" program by playing a major role in the mock memorial service. In addition, she initiated two new programs at South Windsor High School: the "Unified Drama" program which pairs regular and special education students together for participation in drama presentations, and a spoof on pageantry entitled "Mr. South Windsor High School." The proceeds from this event were donated to the Lynn Wallace Scholarship Fund.
2005	Student Award	Selin Whitham	Throughout her high school years, Selin was the student representative on South Windsor's Youth Advisory Board. The Board was comprised of members from the business, school, faith and greater community who acted in an advisory capacity for South Windsor's Youth and Family Services. In her role, she helped with coordinating services and planning new programs. Selin trained and received her certification as an EMT for the South Windsor Ambulance Corps. She spent approximately 180 hours in training for this volunteer role and throughout her senior year volunteered an average of 6-10 hours per week. Selin also supported the ambulance corps by working in the mock crash scene for the "Every 15 Minutes" program at South Windsor High School.
2004	Citizen Award	Anthony J. Odierna	In 1998 Mr. Odierna created the M.A.G.I.C. (Making America Great Involves Commitment) Club at Timothy Edwards Middle School. Mr. Odierna recognized the need for students to understand and become involved in voluntary service and devised a process whereby students learned about and pledged to support community needs. Students were encouraged to volunteer as individuals in an area where they had a personal passion, as well as work together with the other members of the M.A.G.I.C. Club. As a group, the M.A.G.I.C. Club played a significant role in the Uzbekistan Exchange program at Timothy Edwards Middle School. The club held several fundraisers and donated approximately \$12,000 to the program. Through the M.A.G.I.C. Club, Mr. Odierna taught students about the roles and responsibilities of citizens, and by example, he inspired students, their families and his colleagues to make a difference by serving others.
2004	Student Award	Sania Mahmood	Sania Mahmood was involved in volunteer service to many organizations and contributed over 250 hours of service to the school and greater community. The most noteworthy of her contributions was through the Human Relations Committee at South Windsor High School. Over the course of her high school career, Sania Mahmood took on increased responsibility in the committee and in her senior year served as its first president. She played a significant role in the "Anti-Defamation League" program and "Story Telling – Multicultural Narratives," and conceived the idea for a Multicultural Fair to help students understand and celebrate the diversity within South Windsor.

EUGENE POLICELLI SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENT HISTORY

Year	Award	Recipient	Description
2003	Citizen Award	Barney Edward Daley	Mr. Daley was a life-long resident of South Windsor. He volunteered his time to various organizations, including the Boy Scouts of America, the American Legion, the Soldiers, Sailors and Marines Fund, the South Windsor Historical Society and Wood Memorial Library. Mr. Daley was actively involved in helping to develop the former Spring Pond into what is now Veteran's Memorial Park. In 1958 he provided invaluable support to Wood Memorial Library as it became a private library. Mr. Daley donated countless hours and resources to the library which included more than five thousand priceless Podunk Indian artifacts and display cases. Over the years, he also shared his expertise of South Windsor history with the school children of South Windsor, the Historical Society and local nursing home residents. Mr. Daley authored three books about South Windsor's historical past: <i>Five Thousand Years of Podunk</i> , <i>God's Acre</i> , and <i>Tobacco Parish</i> .
2003	Student Award	Jeffrey Scranton	Jeff was involved in a variety of service projects through his affiliation with the National Honor Society, the Interact Club, the C.A.R.E. Club and the Boy Scouts of America. He coordinated local food drives, volunteered at the Cornerstone Soup Kitchen, served as a mathematics tutor, and was a campaign worker for State Representative Nancy Kerensky. Jeff was both a "host brother" and the first South Windsor student to join Ms. Cindy Field for the student exchange program to Secondary School 337 in Samarkand, Uzbekistan. Shortly after his return, Jeff approached Ms. Field with a proposal to create an Eagle Scout project that would provide much needed school supplies to an orphanage in Samarkand as well as the Secondary School #37. Jeff enlisted the help of his colleagues in scouting, the M.A.G.I.C. Club, elementary school students and community members to donate money and supplies. Through his efforts there were enough materials collected to also donate to an additional orphanage outside of Uzbekistan.
2003	Student Award	Garrett Abrahamson	Garrett was involved in a variety of volunteer activities through the National Honor Society, student government, and the music program. Each Sunday during his freshman year he served as a teacher's aide at Temple Beth Hillel. Garrett volunteered over 175 hours to the Interval House. In his volunteer role, Garrett provided childcare services once a week at the battered women's shelter so that parents could attend group treatment sessions. He not only entertained the children in his care, but took the time to answer their questions with respect and kindness.