

WINNERS

Compiled by Michael R. Ebert

TIM NEEDLES

Art teacher



Tim Needles of Sound Beach has received the 2016 AET Outstanding Teaching Award from the National Art Education Association in recognition of his “exceptional instructional applications, inspiration and mentorship of students, and integration of innovative pedagogy and technology into teaching,” the organization said. Needles is an art and media teacher in the Smithtown Central School District, where he has worked for 17 years, and is a professional artist with work featured in the Columbus Museum of Art and Kelly Killoren Bensimon’s book “In the Spirit of the Hamptons.” He also has worked as an Abode Education Leader and an educational consultant for groups such as the Japan Society.

RALPH LAMBERT

CEO



Ralph Lambert of East Patchogue has been named Contractor of the Year by Islandia-based non-profit Contractors for Kids in recognition of his commitment and support to the organization, which assists families facing financial hardships that result from the sickness, injury or death of a child. Lambert is CEO of Axis Construction Corp. in Hauppauge, which he launched in 1993, and has raised approximately \$20 million through the years for various Long Island-based charities. He also is involved with other local organizations and charities, including the March of Dimes, South Nassau Communities Hospital in Oceanside and Winthrop-University Hospital in Mineola.

JOSEPH A. BETZ

Professor



Joseph A. Betz of Stony Brook has received the 2016 Presidential CARES Award from Farmingdale State College in recognition of his “exemplary work on behalf of students, faculty and staff,” the college said. Betz is a professor and chair of the college’s Architecture and Construction Management Department, as well as a registered architect in New York State. He has published extensively in the areas of architectural pedagogy and creativity. He has also served as a member of the Town of Brookhaven’s Planning Board.

JOHN LASPINA

Bowling promoter



John LaSpina of Long Beach will be inducted this summer into the New York State U.S. Bowling Congress Hall of Fame for his “service and promotion to the sport of bowling,” the organization said. LaSpina is proprietor of Maple Family Centers, which consists of four bowling centers locally and in Florida. He also is chairman of the board of directors for Bowlers to Veterans Link, a nonprofit that contributes to the well-being of America’s veterans. He also has been national president of the Bowling Proprietors’ Association of America.

NOMINATE A WINNER Email information about the accomplishment or honor to winners@newsday.com, or mail to Winners, Newsday, 235 Pinelawn Rd., Melville, NY 11747-4250. Include photo by mail or JPEG by email; color is preferred. Photos will not be returned.

SENIORS

COLOR MY WORLD

LONG BEACH: Adult coloring class, all materials provided, 12:45-2:30 p.m. Mondays, JASA Long Beach Senior Center, 75 E. Walnut St., 516-432-5555.

CAREGIVERS DISCUSSION GROUP

OYSTER BAY: Topic is “Lifestyle Transitions,” 5-6:30 p.m. Monday, donations appreciated, Life Enrichment Center at Oyster Bay, 45 E. Main St., more information available at 516-922-1770.

ARCHITECTURE OF LINCOLN MEMORIAL

LONG BEACH: Lecture “Art and Architecture of the Lincoln Memorial,” presented by Louise Cella Caruso; 10 a.m. Tuesday, JASA Long Beach Senior Center, 75 E. Walnut St., 516-432-5555.

SLEEP DISTURBANCES PROGRAM

OYSTER BAY: With Penny Stern of Northwell Health; 11 a.m. Tuesday, Life Enrichment Center at Oyster Bay, 45 E. Main St., 516-922-1770.

TAX ASSISTANCE

LAWRENCE: Free assistance for ages 60 and older, bring documents and last year’s return; sponsored by AARP; 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Fridays, Peninsula Library, 280 Central Ave., 516-239-3262.

OCEANSIDE: Bring all documents and copy of last year’s return, sponsored by the Town of Hempstead Department of Senior Enrichment; 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oceanside Library, 30 Davison Ave., free, oceansidelibrary.com, 516-766-2360.

PLAINVIEW: Free assistance for ages 60 and older, bring documents and last year’s return; Mondays by appointment; sponsored by AARP; Plainview-Old Bethpage Library, 999 Old Country Rd., more information available at 516-938-0077, ext. 200.

WESTBURY: Free assistance for ages 60 and older, bring documents and last year’s return; sponsored by AARP; Wednesdays by appointment, Westbury Library, 445 Jefferson St., 516-333-0176.



DRUMMING SESSION

GLEN COVE: Brendan Finnegan will be leading a “Drumming for Relaxation and Stress Reduction” lesson, which is open to all ages; 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, free, Glen Cove Senior Center, 130 Glen St., 516-759-9610.

MEDICATIONS UPDATE

OYSTER BAY: Prescription drug information from Maris Marzella Mantione of St. John’s University; 11:15 a.m. Thursday, Life Enrichment Center at Oyster Bay, 45 E. Main St., 516-922-1770.

TOUGH TOPICS

PLAINVIEW: Senior discussion of topics related to aging, moderated by a social worker, registered nurse or guest speaker; 10:30-11:30 a.m. Thursday, free, Mid-Island Y JCC, 45 Manetto Hill Rd., more information available at 516-822-3535.

SENIORS CRISIS COUNSELING

The Long Island Crisis Center offers round-the-clock crisis intervention, suicide-prevention hotline, short-term counseling, all services offered are free, confidential and anonymous; call 516-679-1111 for more information.

Compiled by Gene Sullivan

VETERANS

VETERANS ASSISTANCE

Veterans are encouraged to enroll for health care at the Northport VA Medical Center or at its clinics in Bay Shore, East Meadow, Patchogue, Riverhead or Valley Stream, call 631-261-4400 or visit www.northport.va.gov for more information.

AMERICAN LEGION MEETS

MERRICK: Meeting is at 8 p.m. Monday, American Legion Post 1812, 160 W. Merrick Rd., for more information, call 516-521-6989.

DAV MEETS

MALVERNE: The National Amputation Chapter 76 of the DAV, 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, National Amputation Foundation, 40 Church St., 516-887-3600.

VIETNAM VETS MEET

NORTH BELLMORE: The Vietnam War Veterans Association, 8 p.m. Tuesday, North Bellmore American Legion Post 1749, 1298 Newbridge Rd., for more information, call 516-546-3641.

AMVETS MEET

LAKE RONKONKOMA: 8 p.m. Wednesday, AMVETS Post 48, 660 Hawkins Ave., for more information, call 631-581-1401.

VETERANS AND FAMILY RESOURCES

EAST NORTHPORT: Learn about medical and mental health treatments, caregiver support, compensation, pension and more, 7 p.m. Wednesday, Northport-East Northport Public Library, 185 Larkfield Rd., nenpl.org, 631-261-2313.

VFW MEETS

ELWOOD: 8 p.m. Thursday, VFW Post 9263, 319 Cuba Hill Rd., 631-368-9463.

MERCHANT MARINE VETS MEET

BRIGHTWATERS: Merchant Marine Vets North Atlantic Chapter, 1:30 p.m. Friday, Bay Shore-Brightwaters Library, 1 South Country Rd., bswvlibrary.org, for more information, call 631-669-6805.

SUBMIT A PHOTO for a Veterans or Seniors event by mail or email. Include full names, caption details and the photographer’s name. Photos sent by email should be a separate JPEG attachment and not pasted into text. Email to events@newsday.com, or mail to Newsday Events, 235 Pinelawn Rd., Melville, NY 11747-4250. Photos become Newsday property for use in all media.

BENEFITS BREAKFAST LECTURE

STONY BROOK: Continental breakfast and information on Medicaid planning, asset protection, aid and attendance and more, 9-10:30 a.m. Saturday, Long Island State Veterans Home, 100 Patriots Rd., listateveteranshome.org, 631-444-8606.

VETERANS FOOD PANTRIES

RIVERHEAD: Veterans and their families may receive supplementary food, toiletries and other household items, 1-4 p.m. Fridays, Suffolk County United Veterans, 1380 Roanoke Ave., scuv.org, 631-924-8088, ext. 1503.

YAPHANK: Veterans and their families may receive supplementary food, 9 a.m.-noon Monday to Friday, The John J. Lynch Veterans Place, 32 Mill Rd., 631-924-8088, ext. 1503.

WALL OF HONOR

EAST MEADOW: The Nassau County Veterans Monument Fund, a nonprofit organization, offers all veterans, living and deceased, a place on its Walls of Honor in Veterans Plaza in Eisenhower Park, 516-804-5802 for more information.

VETERANS REINTEGRATION

BAY SHORE: United Veterans Beacon House offers free resume preparation, job search, interview and placement assistance, as well as education referrals and funding information, 631-665-1571.

VETERANS HOUSING ASSISTANCE

Geared to veterans who are homeless or on the verge of homelessness, Supportive Services for Veteran Families assists with housing, employment and benefits and may be able to provide time-limited payments to third parties for rentals or utilities, call 631-227-0777 for more information.

VETERANS CRISIS COUNSELING

Free, confidential help for veterans and their families, offered daily around the clock, 800-273-8255, ext. 1.

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