

Township Recognizes Excellence in Service Awards

January 9, 2012

(Livingston, NJ) – At the close of each year, the Township recognizes those staff that provided exemplary service to the Livingston community. The 2nd Annual Employee Recognition Program's goal is to recognize significant contributions in the areas related to improvement of operation, cost savings, promoting team spirit, improvement to the image and reputation of the Township, and customer satisfaction. Employees, both full time and part time, are nominated by their colleagues and the selection committee is made up of Township employees. There are six categories of Awards including Employee of the Year, Customer Service, Teamwork, Innovation, Sunshine, and Pride.

Employee of the Year was Rich Calbi, Township Engineer, whose accomplishments throughout the year and exemplary performance made a significant contribution to the Township. The criteria for this award includes serving as a positive role model for others, excellent work ethic, demonstrating a high level of expertise, and handling challenging situations with confidence in order to get the job done. "The institution of the Township's new road improvement program in 2011 was a tremendous accomplishment," said Township Manager Michele E. Meade "and this coupled with Rich's leadership, work ethic and customer service commitment is a winning combination."

The award for Customer Service went to Sharon Tunis from the Building department who has provided excellent service to Livingston residents. Sharon has portrayed a positive image for the Township, serving resident's needs with professionalism, with the utmost respect, and with the highest priority. "Sharon is kind and friendly and always makes sure her customers get a call back." Meade explained.

The Teamwork Award recognizes employees who cooperate with each other to create a well-run group where each member understands their individual roles and responsibilities that in the end enables the team to accomplish their goals, project, tasks, in a timely professional manner. This year, the Teamwork Award went to the Building department for their dedication and proficient handling of the close to 2000 annual permits and over 8,000 inspections they handle each year. "Under the leadership of Marty Chiarolanzio, Construction Official, these employees work together so well, back each other up, all with the goal of providing excellent customer service" Meade added.

The Innovation Award went to Mark Silance, Adaptive Recreation Coordinator, for his work in developing the Shining Star Sports League for special needs children. The League activity focuses on gross motor skills, fundamentals of each sport and socialization in a learning and play experience. "One of the happy parents told me that that program turned her 'dreams to reality,'" Meade enthused. "Mark has done a tremendous job developing this new program and I am so proud of his accomplishments."

The Township's Sunshine Award went to Alex Lopus of the Public Works department who has a genuine personality, friendly smile and creates a harmonious and effective work environment. "Alex radiates warmth and cheer in the workplace" said Meade.

The Pride Award was presented to Detective Sergeant Anthony Dippold who demonstrated enthusiasm, and pride in his work in the Police department. Anthony displays a calm dignity, self-respect, respect for other employees and Township property, and takes pride in being a public employee as he works to improve the lives of those that live in the Township of Livingston. "Anthony speaks positively about the organization and shows his pride in how he conducts himself with professionalism, courtesy and compassion" continued Meade.

"I am very proud of our Township employees," said Meade. "They work hard every day to make the Livingston community a better place to live and to do business. In times of economic stress, where each dollar is stretched to its maximum capacity to provide quality service to Livingston residents, it is especially important to recognize those employees who are expected to do more work with fewer resources. A Township's prosperity is measured by the dedication of its staff, the diversity of skills, experience, and willingness to go above and beyond the call of duty."

For more information on Township programs and services visit www.livingstonnj.org. The Municipal Building address is 333-357 South Livingston Ave. Offices are open between 8:30-4:30 pm, Monday thru Friday, except for holidays. The Senior, Youth & Leisure Services and Health Department are located at the Senior Community Center on 204 Hillside Ave.

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