

GN Community School Celebrates 75 Years

By Barbara Breslow

On Saturday, March 24, Great Neck Community School hosted a Diamond Jubilee Gala at Harbor Links Golf Course in Port Washington to celebrate a momentous occasion — its 75th anniversary.

Wendy Karpel Kreitzman and Donna Peirez were the distinguished honorees of the evening. Ms. Kreitzman is the editor of the *Great Neck Record* and a former active parent and board member at Community School. Ms. Peirez is a first-grade teacher at Lakeville School and a former parent, board chairperson and current grandparent at the school.

In the true spirit of a cooperative school, the event committee, led by Board Chairperson Naomi Garfinkel, volunteered its time to organize the event. The gala was attended by over 200 guests including parents, staff, alumni, and friends and family of the honorees. The guests enjoyed dinner, dancing, casino games sponsored by The Main Event, and fabulous raffle prizes.

State Senator Craig Johnson, Jordan Goldes (press secretary for Congressman Gary Ackerman), and Town Clerk Michelle Schimel were among the dignitaries present. The honorees and the school were presented with citations from Senator Johnson,



NYS Senator Craig Johnson congratulates the honorees.

Photo by Ken Seki

Nassau County Executive Thomas Suozzi and Nassau County Comptroller Howard Weitzman.

The gala was also the biggest fundraiser in the school's history. Great Neck Community School gratefully acknowledges all the individuals and businesses that sponsored or donated to make it such a successful event.

Seventy-five years after its incorporation in 1932, the Community School is vibrant and innovative and yet also continues to be, in the best sense, committed to its traditional values. As a licensed preschool, Community School is highly compliant to

standards for education and the environment.

Great Neck Community School is a not-for-profit, non-sectarian, multicultural preschool and the oldest cooperative in Long Island. It is registered by the New York State Department of Education and licensed by the New York State Office of Children and Family Services. For more information, visit the school's website at www.gncommunityschool.org or call 482-5005 or email info@gncommunityschool.org.

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Wendy Karpel Kreitzman



Past and present directors and business administrators (l. to r.): Barbara Breslow, Jeri Golus, Mitzi Weissman and Lisa Cole.



The anniversary cake.



Donna Peirez



Guests dance the Electric Slide.

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GNCS Director Barbara Breslow.



The anniversary cake.



Guests dance the Electric Slide.



Naomi Garfinkel, event and board chairperson.



Donna Peirez with daughter Rachel Venegas, a former student, teacher and present parent at Community School.



Guests enjoy a game of Black Jack.

Photos by Ken Seki