

## ***2013 Social Worker of the Year***



### **Lois Logan, MSW, LCSW-R**

Lois Logan received her Master of Social Work degree from Stony Brook University's School of Social Welfare. As a Social Worker she has emphasized working on community outreach both in the public and private sectors.

She was a Social Worker in the Smithtown Clinic where she was also a member of the Clinic's Crisis Team providing therapeutic assistance to members of the community who were faced with extreme difficulties and life obstacles.

Lois also worked as a Family Therapist in Family Studies, and The Children and Family Agency where she provided psychological treatment for children and their families who were faced with extreme

hardships and psychological issues.

Lois subsequently served as a Treatment Team Leader at the Kings Park Psychiatric Center where she provided clinical leadership to the team. Lois then became a Case Manager Coordinator in Nassau County Department of Mental Health for New York State.

Lois relocated to Albany to work as a Program Specialist for the New York Office of Mental Health, where she also edited the manual Healthy People 2000. Upon her return to Long Island, Lois worked for Nassau Department of Mental Health as Housing Coordinator.

In addition to her diverse employment history, she is a Clinical Instructor and Field Liaison at Stony Brook University's School of Social Welfare. She continues to be an active member of the faculty, tasked with educating and overseeing field placements of future social work candidates.

Lois has received various prestigious appointments during her career as a Social Worker and currently sits on two community agency boards working to ensure clients receive needed services. Lois also serves as Chairperson of the NASW-NYS Suffolk Division's Veterans Committee.

## ***2013 Lifetime Achievement Award***

### **Roberta Monat, LCSW, ACSW**

Roberta, prior to her retirement six years ago, spent twenty five years of her career as a geriatric social worker, assistant director and then director of the Long Island Division of JASA, the Jewish Association Serving the Aging.

Roberta received her undergraduate degree from Cornell University and MSW from Columbia University School of Social Work. She started her social work career in the field of foster care and adoption. After moving to Long Island she attained a gerontology certificate from Adelphi University and began her career in aging. She initially worked for RSVP, the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, where she coordinated the home visiting and telephone reassurance program. Then upon joining JASA her responsibilities included counseling both the elderly and family members and facilitating support groups for Adult Children Caregivers of Aging Parents. She also advocated for clients in the courts, before the Department of Social Services and other agencies and testified at public hearings as an advocate for the elderly.

Roberta was an adjunct professor at Stony Brook School of Social Welfare for one semester, where she taught a course entitled, "Aging in America." In addition she supervised Stony Brook graduate students for over 10 years. Most of these students enjoyed successful careers in aging and many still keep in touch with Roberta.

As Director of Long Island for JASA, in addition to supervising ongoing programs she wrote grant proposals and developed new programs. She started Adult Day Care programs for people with Alzheimer's disease and the first NORC (Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities) on Long Island. She also developed meals on wheels, a new senior center and case management and caregiver counseling services on Long Island. Roberta, both before and after retirement has been a leadership force in educating and promoting the profession and in advocating for aging services. She was a founding member and Chair of the Elder Abuse Committee of the Suffolk County Executive's Task Force on Family Violence, and was a member of the Geriatric Mental Health Alliance, the Senior Services Providers in Nassau County and the Adult Protective Services Advisory Committee in Nassau County. She is a sought after speaker on care giving and has spoken on the topic at numerous conferences and workshops.

She has been the Chair of the Aging Committee of NASW NYS Suffolk County Division for over 30 years and continues in that role during her retirement. During Roberta's tenure as Chairperson of the Aging Committee, the committee has developed and published four Guides to "Adult Homes, Assisted Living and Nursing Homes", three "Guides to Caring for Senior's in Suffolk County" and has held over 20 conferences on aging issues, the success of which has been, in large measure, due to Roberta's unflagging dedication and inspiration. NASW-NYS's Suffolk Division, in recognition of Roberta's achievements, has given her awards for Advocacy on behalf of the elderly and Lifetime Achievement.



## ***2013 Agency of the Year***

### **Long Island Council on Alcoholism & Drug Dependence**



Founded in 1956, by R. Brinkley “Brink” Smithers, the Long Island Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (LICADD) is Long Island’s premier nonprofit agency providing life-saving alcohol and drug prevention and intervention services to at-risk children, individuals, and families across the region. LICADD conducts screenings, brief interventions, referrals to treatment and relapse prevention services to individuals and families impacted by substance abuse.

LICADD provides direct support to over 6,000 individuals of all ages and their families annually through substance abuse interventions, treatment referrals and recovery support services. The Student Assistance Program (SAP) delivers prevention education trainings to 20,000 students, parents, teachers and administrators in 56 districts. An additional 60,000 individuals are served through the Open Arms Employee Assistance Program (EAP).

2013 marks the 57<sup>th</sup> year of LICADD, and the continued expansion of many of the agency’s core programs including its BUDDY Mentoring, Start2Stop and Open Arms Employee Assistance Program (EAP). LICADD’s resources not only support individuals dealing with addiction and recovery, but address the broad range of issues that friends and loved ones often experience. From sibling and grief and loss support groups, to family education and anger management programs, LICADD offers a comprehensive array of services from its three offices in Mineola, Ronkonkoma and Riverhead, NY.

LICADD’s staff, under the leadership of Executive Director Jeffrey L. Reynolds, Ph.D, CEAP, SAP, is comprised of dedicated and compassionate individuals whose professional interests and credentials strengthen the innovative programs and services that LICADD offers. In addition, the agency provides trainings and internship opportunities to over twenty interns each year from graduate level Social Work programs across Long Island and the Greater New York area. Overall, the team strives to help individuals, families and members of the workplace prevent or recover from alcoholism and/or other drug addictions.

As an independent and voluntary 501(c)3 agency whose only affiliation is with the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (NCADD), LICADD is able to develop and implement programs that respond to the needs and best interests of our clients. LICADD provides efficient and effective client services while adhering to the strictest professional and fiscal standards as reflected in its accounting systems, budget, personnel practices, planning activities and programming operations. Ninety seven percent of LICADD's \$1.5 million annual budget comes from private sources.

Through voluntary contributions, some foundation support and special events, LICADD serves more than 700 Long Islanders per month and educates more than 15,000 children annually through its prevention programs. The organization maintains a wide support base in the community, and as a result of their generosity, LICADD is able to provide many of its services at modest fee levels.

LICADD remains the leading agency committed to transforming the stigma associated with addiction and assisting Long Islanders of all ages through accurate information and positively charged personal testimony. In addition to LICADD's strong track-record of developing evidence-based programing in response to trends in substance abuse and addiction on Long Island, the agency actively pushes for effective public policy as it relates to underage drinking, substance abuse and access to treatment. In 2012, LICADD celebrated the passage of the ISTOP (Internet System for Tracking Over-Prescribing) Act and welcomed Attorney General Eric Schneiderman and Nassau County District Attorney Kathleen Rice to a press conference in the agency's Mineola office. In Suffolk County, better oversight of sober homes was approved and a Narcan Pilot Program has resulted in more than 30 overdose reversals in the last three months.

## *2013 Public Citizen of the Year*

### NANCY MANFREDONIA



Nancy Manfredonia has lived in Central Islip with her husband, Peter, for the past 44 years. She graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Georgetown University where she received a Bachelor of Science Degree. Nancy has had an eclectic career in government, education, and as a non-profit administrator. She is the founder of the Long Island Greenbelt Trail Conference, a volunteer organization dedicated to establishing and maintaining hiking trails on Long Island. Nancy believes deeply in commitment to community, and serves on numerous local boards, including chairing the Islip Town Environmental Council.

Nancy has served as the Executive Director of the Central Islip Civic Council since 1983. Under her direction, the Council has received numerous awards and has instituted a variety of programs to improve the quality of life for the 35,000 residents of Central Islip, a low to moderate income community in Suffolk County, Long Island.

Under her leadership, the Council spearheaded the transformation of the blighted Carleton Park area into College Woods, an attractive, safe and diverse 500 home neighborhood: a national model of suburban revitalization. Additionally, Nancy was a driving force in bringing major economic development projects to Central Islip, which resulted in hundreds of new jobs and millions of dollars in tax revenue to the area. She has secured various funding streams for the Council, allowing the small, non-profit agency to develop as a major provider of affordable housing, educational, recreational and job services for at risk youth, and emergency food and tenant services.

Nancy has been recognized for her passionate leadership and community service and has received awards from Newsday, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Sierra Club, Islip Township, the American Planning Association, the NAACP, and the Long Island Volunteer Hall of Fame.



## 2013 Student of the Year

### **Thomas Neuschul**

Thomas Neuschul is a second year student enrolled in the child and family welfare concentration of the Masters of Social Work program at LIU Post. Neuschul will graduate from LIU Post in May. He is currently working as an intern at Long Island GLBT Services Network where he provides counseling services to individuals as well as helping to implement various outreach activities to schools and other organizations. Previously he served as an intern at the Nassau County Coalition Against Child Abuse and Neglect as well as Nassau County Child Protective Services.



After graduating with an undergraduate degree in political science and anthropology, Neuschul was unsure about what he wanted to do next. He worked as a teacher aide at The Center for Developmental Disabilities where he assisted developmentally disabled students in the classroom.

“While working with that population, I saw how much of an impact the social worker had on the students and their families,” Neuschul had. “The social worker really helped to improve their quality of life.” After researching the profession, Neuschul said he knew social work was something he wanted to pursue, and registered for the MSW program at LIU Post. An active member of the MSW Graduate Student Association, Neuschul said he enjoys working with families and individuals, and hopes to serve as an advocate for the GLBT community in the future.

Neuschul’s professors cite his strong dedication to learning, his genuine appreciation for the social work profession, and his commitment to social work values and ethics.

“I am very proud that our program has produced such a wonderful asset for the field of social work,” said Dr. Ilene Nathanson, program director of the social work collaborative MSW program. “I feel that Thomas is going to make an impact on many levels of social work practice.”