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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LI Nurses Recognized for Excellence  

St. Catherine of Siena Medical Center RN and Stony Brook Nursing School Professor Share Top Honor  

(Hauppauge, NY . . . May 23, 2013) Nurse leaders from Long Island’s hospitals and nursing education programs gathered Wednesday, May 22, 2013 at the Woodbury Country Club to bestow recognition upon their nurse peers at the Nurse of Excellence Award Ceremony hosted by the Nassau-Suffolk Hospital Council (NSHC). One nurse from each of the Hospital Council’s member hospitals was nominated for this award, which recognizes outstanding leadership and clinical practice. Deans of area nursing schools also submitted nominations recognizing nursing excellence in education.  

St James resident Catherine Videtto, RN, the stroke program coordinator at St. Catherine of Siena Medical Center, and Southampton resident Lori Escallier, PhD, associate dean for evaluation and outcomes at Stony Brook University School of Nursing, rose above a field of 25 nominees. Those nominees were selected from a field of about 500 nurses at hospitals and teaching institutions from across Long Island.  

Videtto is considered a pioneer regarding the disease process of stroke and is credited with St. Catherine’s attainment of the New York State Department of Health Stroke Certification and The Joint Commission Disease-Specific Certification for Stroke – both with no recommendations for improvement. She regularly presents at and organizes stroke management conferences and research symposia. In 2009, the New York State Senate named her a Woman of Distinction for her achievements, pursuit of higher goals, and mentorship.  

Escallier is a master of nursing evaluation and theory and has presented her evidence-based scholarly research at numerous local, national, and international conferences and has published in dozens of peer-reviewed journals. Her research includes nationally grant-funded research on nursing education, delivery models, and organizational outcomes. She is the recipient of the 2012 Five Year Distinguished Service Award from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing and the 2012 Outstanding Achievement in Education and Student Relations for the Robert Wood Johnson RWJ Scholars.  

“Nurses will see their leadership roles expand because of reforms inherent in the Affordable Care Act,” said Paul Connor, chair of the Nassau-Suffolk Hospital Council board of directors and CEO of Eastern Long Island Hospital. “In addition, they will be called to fill the gap of primary care services, as insurance coverage expands under reform and as baby boomers age. . . there is a level of comfort going into the future knowing a nurse will always be there.”  

The Hospital Council’s annual salute to nurses is fashioned after the New York State Legislature’s Nurse of Distinction Program that ended in 1995. NSHC is one of the few hospital associations in the state to continue this program voluntarily. It is now in its 18th year. The NSHC represents Long Island’s not-for-profit and public hospitals.  

For more information about this program and a full listing of nominees, visit www.nshc.org.  

(See Photo on page 2 . . . MORE)
From left: Gara Edelstein, MSN, RN, Chair of NSHC Nurse of Excellence Sub-committee and Senior VP of Administration and Chief Nursing Officer at St. Catherine of Siena Medical Center; 2013 Nurse of Excellence Co-winners Dr. Lori Escallier and Catherine Videtto; and Patricia Darcey, MS, RN-BC-NE, Chief Nursing Officer and VP of Patient Care Services at Southampton Hospital and Chair of the Nassau-Suffolk Hospital Council Nurse Executives Committee

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