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- Mercy Medical Center  
Rockville Centre
- St. Catherine of Siena  
Medical Center  
Smithtown
- St. Charles Hospital  
Port Jefferson
- St. Francis Hospital  
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Greenport

Long Beach Medical Center  
Long Beach

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- Southside Hospital

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Nassau-Suffolk  
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## Nassau University Medical Center Nurse Takes Top Honor

Nurse leaders from Long Island's not-for-profit and public hospitals gathered Wednesday, May 14, 2008 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. Of the 24 nominees, Huntington resident Amy B. Pakes RN, MS, nurse manager of the Nassau County Firefighters Burn Center at Nassau-University Medical Center (NUMC), took the top honor as Long Island's "Nurse of Excellence."

"A nurse's approach to patient care is second to none," said Arthur Gianelli, CEO/president of Nassau-University Medical Center. "Our burn center is essentially Amy's vision. We congratulate her on today's honor."

In addition to serving as nurse manager for the Burn Unit, Pakes is nurse manager for the hyperbaric unit and surgical intensive care unit at NUMC. She has developed educational programs on burn care and related conditions that are treated in burn centers, and she participates in significant outreach programs to benefit critically ill trauma and burn patients.

This year's program also invited the deans of area nursing schools to submit nominations recognizing nursing excellence in education. Farmingdale State



From left: Arthur Gianelli, president and CEO of Nassau-University Medical Center (NUMC); Julie Mirkin, Senior VP for Patient Care Services and chief Nursing Officer at NUMC and the 2008 NSHC Nurse of Excellence Award Winner Amy Pakes RN MS.

College and Stony Brook University School of Nursing presented nominees.

"It is striking what nurses contribute to the team," said Lee Xippolitos RN, PhD, chairperson of the Hospital Council's Nurse Administrators Committee and chief nursing officer at Stony Brook University Medical Center.

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 voluntarily continue this program. It is now in its 13th year. The NSHC represents Long Island's 24 not-for-profit and public hospitals.

## Congressman Bishop Meets with Hospital Leaders

Congressman Tim Bishop recently met with CEOs from hospitals in the First Congressional District, at the offices of the Nassau-Suffolk Hospital Council (NSHC) in Hauppauge, NY. Hosted by the Hospital Council, the roundtable gathering allowed the CEOs and the congressman to have a frank and open discussion about the major issues facing hospitals in Bishop's district.

These issues include Medicaid regulatory changes and reductions, immigration issues that have hampered the flow of qualified and much needed foreign nurses to hospitals, and the market imbalance between commercial health insurers and not-for-profit hospitals. The for-profit motive of commercial insurers starkly contrasts with the not-for-profit mission of hospitals, resulting in economic inequity. Further, the consolidation of insurers, whose offices are no longer in local communities, contributes to the unfair market advantage insurers enjoy.

The hospitals in the First Congressional District are: Brookhaven Memorial Hospital Med-



From left: James O'Connor, Executive Vice President, St. Charles Hospital; Congressman Bishop; Ken Roberts, President, John T. Mather Memorial Hospital.

ical Center; Eastern Long Island Hospital; John T. Mather Memorial Hospital; Peconic Bay Medical Center; Southampton Hospital; St. Catherine of Siena Medical Center; St. Charles Hospital; Stony Brook University Medical Center.