



News Release

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Paul J. Connor III receives Trustee of the Year Award from LeadingAge New York

GREENPORT, N.Y., August 21, 2017 — LeadingAge New York has honored Paul J. Connor, longtime Vice-Chair of Peconic Landing's Board of Trustees, with its 2017 Trustee of the Year Award.

The award recognizes those who have "served unselfishly and with distinction devoting significant contributions of time and effort toward the betterment of his or her organization or service to seniors," according to LeadingAge New York. The advocacy organization, formerly known as the New York Association of Homes & Services for the Aging (NYAHS), represents not-for-profit, mission-driven and public long-term care providers.

Paul Connor was presented with the award by LeadingAge New York President and CEO, James W. Clyne Jr. during a celebration at Peconic Landing on August 17.

"I have had the pleasure of working with Paul on past projects, and Paul always steps up and does the right thing when it comes to advocating for the long-term care community," said Clyne. "Congratulations on being named one of LeadingAge New York's Trustees of the Year."

Paul joined Peconic Landing's Board of Trustees in 2001, playing an integral role in the strategic growth and success of the community, advocating for members and seniors across the East End.

"It is a privilege to be part of the Peconic Landing Board. This recognition underscores the Board's commitment to the mission and vision of Peconic Landing to create an environment where our community can age successfully," Connor said.

He was nominated by his fellow board members, with support from state lawmakers.

"I believe the true measure of the value of each of our Trustees is their ability to oversee and steer our organization in a manner that allows Peconic Landing to achieve its mission while also having a vision for the future. Paul Connor does both at the highest level," said Sandra K. Novick, Chair of the Board of Trustees. "He provides leadership, community-based knowledge, healthcare savvy, and guidance contributing greatly to our community's success."

The depth of Paul's commitment to Peconic Landing and its mission was made evident following the unfortunate and untimely death of its former Board Chairman, John M. May, who passed away during the critical months of a \$44 million residential living and health center expansion project in 2015.

"Taking over as Interim Board Chairman during this expansion, Paul led the community through an at times challenging transition, resulting in an extremely successful execution that will help the community to better serve its members," said Robert J. Syron, President and CEO of Peconic Landing.

"Paul has spent nearly twenty years supporting the efforts of the community, assisting from concept to the creation of the CCRC we are today," Syron said. "He has spent countless hours making himself available to community members and the management team for advice and counsel, helping to move this organization forward."

As President and CEO of Eastern Long Island Hospital, a community hospital in nearby Greenport Village, Paul offers a depth of understanding of healthcare sector regulations keeping Peconic Landing's Board of Trustees educated on the challenges affecting the industry. Located on the North Fork of Long Island, the hospital serves a disproportionately senior population with a 65+ census nearly double that of Suffolk County's average. Because of this, Paul dedicates time to advocating at local, state and national levels for the needs of seniors and the healthcare industry.

"Paul continues to work to recruit leading doctors and surgeons to provide better access to healthcare services for our local seniors," said Tom Murray, Chair of the Board of Trustees for ELIH. "Peconic Landing and Eastern Long Island Hospital are better organizations thanks to Paul's many contributions and dedication to serving the residents of the North Fork."

Paul has served as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Nassau-Suffolk Hospital Council (NSHC), the association that represents Long Island's 24 not-for-profit and public hospitals. He also served on the board of the East End Health Alliance, the parent organization of Long Island's three East End hospitals who advocated for a stronger bargaining position in negotiations with insurance providers and managed care companies.

"Paul has an outstanding commitment and years of service to older Americans and consistently strives to make a difference in their quality of life," said New York State Senator Ken LaValle. "Paul is committed to putting 'care' back in healthcare for residents and visitors alike, and is always there to lend a helping hand to those in need."

LeadingAge New York is a not-for-profit advocacy group representing more than 600 retirement communities throughout the state. It also represents an estimated 150,000 professionals serving more than 500,000 New Yorkers annually.

Peconic Landing is a nationally recognized, not-for-profit Lifecare retirement community overlooking the breathtaking Long Island Sound. Located on the North Fork of Long Island, our 144-acre campus is bordered by grapevines and golfing greens, situated on a half-mile of private Sound beach. The community is home to the North Fork's only Sculpture Garden, and serves as a cultural arts hub for the

East End Community presenting ample opportunity for individuals to pursue their interests and passions to the fullest. For information about Peconic Landing visit www.PeconicLanding.org.

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