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Women Leaders Honored

By JILL NOSSA

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Three women who are dedicated to the betterment of Glen Cove were honored at the seventh annual National Night Out held in Glen Cove on Tuesday, Aug. 6.

Every year, the event honors a person who has been instrumental to the community. This year, the honorees were Arlene O'Dell of the Youth Bureau, Dr. Sharon Harris of SAFE, Inc. and Melissa Rhodes of the Glen Cove Boys & Girls Club. These women have all played a major role in supporting and protecting the youth of the city and helping keep Glen Cove a safe and welcoming place for children.

The purpose of National Night Out Against Crime is to bring the police officers and the community together. The event began 30 years ago, and was brought to Glen Cove by the recommendation of the police department as a way to build a stronger relationship between the residents of the city and law enforcement officials. Police headquarters opens its doors to offer tours, and booths are set up by various emergency responders to provide information to the public, such as the EMS, fire department and harbor patrol. Fire trucks and police cars are also parked on the

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Legislator Delia DeRiggi-Whitton (center) was proud to participate with a table at National Night Out. Sea Cliff intern Marissa Gianfortune (seated) painted faces. Glen Head intern Lauren Capozzi (right) and Legislative Aide Hendrick Fayette (left) assisted with outreach.

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street for children to explore. To complete the festivities, area restaurants donated free pizza and sandwiches, sno cones and cotton candy for the kids, and live music set the tone for the evening.

The recipients were given citations from the City of Glen Cove, Nassau County Legislator Delia DeRiggi-Whitton, NY State Assemblyman Chuck Lavine, Congressman Steve Israel, and Senator Carl Marcellino. Councilman Reggie Spinello presented citations on behalf of County Executive Ed Mangano, and Councilman Tony Gallo presented citations on behalf of County Comptroller George Maragos.

Mayor Suozzi expressed words of praise for the work each one of these women have done for the children of the community, and the city at large.

Arlene O'Dell is the executive director of the Youth Bureau, Dr. Harris has been the executive director of SAFE, Inc for the past 13 years and Melissa Rhodes took over the role of executive director of the Glen Cove Boys & Girls Club in 2008. These

agencies devote a lot of effort in helping the children of the community reach their full potential.

"I would like to express my sincere appreciation to Chief Bill Whitton and the Glen Cove Police Department and Mayor Ralph Suozzi and the City of Glen Cove for selecting Glen Cove Boys & Girls Club as one of the 2013 National Night Out honorees," said Rhodes. "I stand with my fellow Executive Directors, Dr. Sharon Harris of SAFE Inc. and Arlene O'Dell of The Glen Cove Youth Bureau, with great pride to be acknowledged for the exceptional work that each of our agencies do each and every day to make Glen Cove a safer place for our citizens, especially our children. By providing productive, engaging, character-building programs and activities for our young people during their non-school hours, we are able to inspire them to choose a path that leads them to a happy and healthy future."

DeRiggi-Whitton thanked them for their commitment when presenting the citation, saying, "It takes a city to raise a child."



Legislator Delia DeRiggi-Whitton and City Councilman Tony Jimenez with proud National Night Out enthusiasts.









Legislator Delia DeRiggi-Whitton was proud to highlight the effort of law Sarina Koli sings the National Anthem.

enforcement at National Night Out.

(Photo by Jill Nossa) enforcement at National Night Out.





Green Forest Veterinary Hospital provided the bounce house for the kids. (Photo by Jill Nossa)



Legislator Delia DeRiggi-Whitton and Mayor Ralph Suozzi recognized the 2013 National Night Out Honorees (I to r): Sharon Harris of SAFE, Arlene O'Dell of the Youth Board and Melissa Rhodes of the Boys & Girls Club.



Sponsors of National Night Out included Mary Stanco of Laffey Fine Homes and The Regency at Glen Cove.

(Photo by Jill Nossa)