

VFW #6338 to present Good Citizen Award to former mayor Laura Slate

by Robin Jarboe

Gouverneur's Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #6338 members will be honoring former Gouverneur Mayor Laura Slate on Saturday, October 7th with the 57th annual Good Citizen award.

The recognition is presented each year to a citizen of the area, through a public nomination process and committee of veterans who decide on the selected recipient who has shown a commitment to the community.

Laura, who is currently battling another round with cancer, is quite the spark of life and full of opinions on how she "really urges people to get involved with their towns and villages."

She said, "We all live here, and should be taking responsibility for our village. I believe everyone should be involved and run for their



Laura Slate

local school boards, village, and town boards and to participate as a citizen, as this is our village and it is run by us individuals, not any one person."

There was also a notation from Laura which specifies how, "it is a right and duty to vote. Our children have a lot to learn of the Constitution and our governments and it should start out with the schools getting them involved."

Even though Laura is no longer in the political arena, she can tell you what it is like and what anyone can do to get started in the practice of local government, after all, she was the first woman mayor of Gouverneur.

She held the mayor's post for three consecutive terms from December 1987 to 1993. Prior to this she was a village trustee from March 1986 to December 1987.

Some of the projects she developed, and was instrumental in getting underway, were the bringing a New York State Correctional Facility to Gouverneur in 1989; and obtaining a three-phase Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Grant which provided \$1.5 million in HUD and NYS Affordable Housing Funds for rehab work to the residents on the West Side of the village to improve their quality of life. With the CDBG grant came three years of construction jobs for the small construction businesses and material vendors.

Laura worked with officials to receive a \$400,000 grant from the Development Authority of the North Country and Marble City Housing to be used for purchasing and rehab work on larger residential homes in order to

convert them to affordable multi unit homes. She proudly stated with the grant the entire West Side was completed.

She encouraged the St. Lawrence County Industrial Park Agency in constructing a 15,000 square foot shell building on their property in the village for future development of a new business or businesses which would promote jobs for the area.

As former mayor, Laura joined her forces with the Department of Housing Development in order to install two new water line river crossings so the water flow to areas of both the east and west sides of the village would be improved.

During her mayoral position, she realized that none of the 801 Housing communities had flag poles. Laura approached Time Warner officials who sponsored the installation of flag poles, and worked with the mayors of each military housing community to have the projects completed.

She noted, "it was a good relationship with the military community, their mayors, and our making them feel welcome to our community. Plus we wanted to keep the families abreast of our community events and services we have to offer."

It was also she who was the support behind the Jr. High Student Council for raising funds and donating new trees to the village for Main Street and the Park Bench project. A task which added much needed shade to the summer pedestrians and visitors to the park.

Another improvement to the village's downtown was the board working with the Gouverneur Chamber of Commerce on placing new Christmas lights in the park for added attraction during the holiday season.

Laura is a 1951 GHS graduate and she went on to A. Barton Hepburn School of Nursing in

Ogdensburg for one and a half years before returning to Gouverneur where she worked for seven years at E.J. Noble Hospital and for ten years with Optometrist Dr. J.J. Doyle.

Her husband, Kenneth Daniel, returned from the Korean War in 1956 and preferred that she not work, so she retired. The couple has been happily married for 52 years.

They have three children, Ronald, Robin, and Randy, all of the Gouverneur area, plus grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Laura held memberships on the Gouverneur Central School Board of Education from 1974 to 1982; was a former member of the West Side PTA; E.J. Noble Hospital Auxiliary; Friends of the Library; a Fort Drum regional liaison organization member; St. Lawrence County Mayor's Association; community advisory board associate of the Gouverneur Correctional Facility; Gouverneur Crime Prevention Council; Seaway Valley Crime Stoppers; on the Mater Dei Advisory Board; about 30 years with the Ladies Auxiliary to VFW #6338; and a Democratic town and village chairperson.

A future task she has been thinking about is starting a cancer survivor meeting as many know "talking is one of the best therapies." There is leukemia, and breast cancer groups, but she would like to start a general cancer support group for all those other types of the dreaded disease.

She recommends that everyone, "take advantage to smell the roses and see what we don't generally see around us everyday."

Tickets to the recognition dinner are available at VFW #6338 or by calling 287-4682.

Congratulations to Laura Slate on her acknowledgment and respect for the Gouverneur community!

You Are Invited To
KOFFEE HOUSE
 FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12
 22 Church Street, Gouverneur, NY.
 LOCATED ACROSS FROM THE LIFESAVER
 HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE

7 TO 9 PM

WARM FELLOWSHIP

FREE REFRESHMENTS . . . MUSIC "LIVE BAND"

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
LODDY, LODDY
LOOK WHO IS FORTY!!

If you see
LAURIE YOUNG
OCTOBER 8TH
 wish her a "HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!"
 Love Ya!! Brodey & Fuzzer

LIMITED TIME OFFER

Monitor
"Summer Countdown"
\$75.00 or \$100.00
Instant Rebate

With purchase of Monitor GF1800/GF3800 Natural Gas/LP Vented Heating System ONLY!!

The BEST cure for high fuel costs
The Monitor Heating System
Twenty years of proven dependability, economy and comfort.

There won't be a better time to buy!
 Expires 9/22/06

- 4-time/4-temperature programmable timer.
- Cool touch cabinet.
- Automatic control of heat output to heat areas up to 1,500 square feet.
- Sealed combustion system.
- No fumes, no odors.
- Direct vented system eliminates induced drafts.
- Used by tens of thousands of satisfied customers in homes, cottages, businesses and other living spaces.
- Memory backup.
- Automatic reset after power failure.
- Economy Plus mode.

Monitor GF1800
 Monitor GF3800 Only.
 Other models not eligible.

MPI Monitor Products

WHITE'S LUMBER
Monitor Kerosene Rebate ends 9/15/06!

ULC **UL** Watertown N. Rutland St. 788-8200
 Gouverneur Depot St. 287-1892
 Pulaski Rome Rd. 298-6575
 Clayton James St. 686-1892

Offer can not be used with other promotions. Prior sales excluded.

Letter to the Editor: Morals, money and who gets barred

To the Editor,

Politics in a small community are often shadier than in urban cities.

It's well-known that certain establishments here in the village (Gouverneur) have had many complaints this summer, most of which the (State Police) troopers had to be called.

Sometimes people may get barred for starting fights, and many times not, sometimes it depends on who the bartender is, or if you're related.

Some people can create trouble three weekends in a row, without being barred.

If some of the people being sucker punched would press charges, maybe the (New York State) Liquor Board would step in.

It's sad to think that if you spend most of your paychecks in this bar, you never have to worry about being barred. But if you were the one being sucker punched, or a victim of a crime, you could be the one who is barred.

"Maybe everyone is out to cover their own butts!"

It's sad when money is worth more than morals. If nothing else, we have to believe that somehow, someday, God will see that justice prevails.

A concerned mother
 Shelly Payne
 Gouverneur

South Edwards News

By Linda Perry

Autumn activities continue to dot our section of Northern New York. The Harvest Supper is tonight at the Edwards United Methodist Church, as noted in the community date book.

"Make a Difference Day" is slated for Oct. 28th. This is an outreach in connection with the "Points o' Light Foundation." Participation can be individual, family or group. Local Crop Walks assist the food pantries.

Your support for the This and That Sale was appreciated. The sale was held at Kinney Nursing Home and benefits their activities department.

October 7th is the date for God's Grace Coffee House. Gospel music and lots of fun, downstairs in the Edwards Library.

Immunization clinics

Kinney Drugs, the leading healthcare organization in Upstate New York and Vermont, is offering flu and pneumonia immunization clinics for all customers at most of its stores.

The clinics will be available at various stores from Friday, September 29, 2006 to Sunday, October 29, 2006. Exact locations, dates and times are available at www.KinneyDrugs.com or by calling any local Kinney Drugs store.

North Country Store

Rt. 11 South Philadelphia, N.Y.
 642-0646

STORE HOURS:
 Mon. - Tues. - Thurs. & Fri. 8-6
 Wed. 8-5:30 & Sat. 8-5pm
 CLOSED SUNDAY

SPECIALS FOR 2 WEEKS - Oct. 2nd to Oct. 14th, 2006

- *Ham & Cheese Loaf.....\$2.99 lb.
- *Corned Beef.....\$3.39 lb.
- *Farmer's Cheese.....\$2.99 lb.
- *CV Sharp Cheese.....\$4.49 lb.

Several Varieties
 Of Apples PLUS
 WE HAVE APPLE
 CIDER!!

Monitor Heating Systems

"Your Direct Vent Solution To High Energy Costs!"
 CALL

Wollman Plumbing & Heating
 161 Wilson Street
 Gouverneur, NY 13642
 (315) 287-0385

Complete SALES - SERVICE - INSTALLATION

- *\$150 Trade-In Allowance On Select Models - M 20/ 30/ 40/ 21/ 41/ 22
- *15 Years As Your Area Monitor Expert!
- *Also Your Direct Vent Dealer For Energy Efficient On Demand Water Heaters By **TOYOTOMI** and **Rinnai**.
- *Heaters and On Demand Water Heaters Available In K-1, #2 Fuel, LP, & Natural Gas
- *Call NOW For Quote And On-Site Survey

THE DIRECT VENT SOLUTION
 Energy Saving Heat & Hot Water Technologies

Gouverneur Mattress Co.
JUST ARRIVED YESTERDAY!!

New Bunkbeds From BARN DOOR
Solid Wood Construction

- Twin over Twin \$399
- Twin over Full \$499
- Full over Full \$499

THERAPEDIC
 SLEEP PRODUCTS

Therapedic Mattress Sets On Sale
HAVEN - FIRM

- Twin Sets Start @ \$199
- Full Sets Start @ \$259
- Queen Sets Start @ \$299

INCLUDES FREE DELIVERY!

LADIES....
Our Jewelry Armoires

And Vanities

Have Arrived! Hurry In To

Pick Out The One You Want Christmas!!

As A Gift For

~Don't Forget You Can Still Put Your Items On LAYAWAY~

Gouverneur Mattress Co.
Main Street, Gouverneur
(315) 287-2700