

Dimensions of living

Grandmother draws inspiration from family

Named 2009 Cause Champion for work with alliance

By URSULA MOORE

Ellen Cooperperson, of Nesconset was honored recently by the Long Island Way as the 2009 Cause Champion. The Cause Champion Award is presented to an individual who demonstrates exceptional promotion, connection and support in the not for profit and business communities on Long Island. "It was exciting to be honored. There were about 400 people at the event. It energized me. It's recognition of what's possible. It's always great to give back," said Mrs. Cooperperson.

As a Cause Champion, Mrs. Cooperperson is being recognized for her continuous support in the community including her work as a Long Island Way Alliance Partner with Best Buddies New York, an organization whose mission is to enhance the lives of people with intellectual disabilities by providing opportunities for one to one friendship and integrated employment. Best Buddies works with middle school and high school students and trains them to be leaders. "My two grandchildren have autism and Best Buddies works with students like my grandchildren and embraces them. Children are wounded when they are left out. Best Buddies allows every child to have a buddy," said Mrs. Cooperperson.

Donna Cariello, Founder of The Long Island Way admires Mrs. Cooperperson's dedication to others. "Ellen Cooperperson has been a remarkable example of a business owner who recognized the many needs on Long Island and has made a difference for so many causes. We are grateful for her support of Best Buddies, her Long Island Way Alliance partner, and for her insight and commitment to helping bridge the gap and build sustainable relationships, funding methods and support systems on Long Island." She added.

"The Cause Champion Award celebrates the generosity of spirit, talent and treasure of these distinguished members of the Long Island community this year. Their concern for others is what we mean when we talk about The Long Island Way. It's about networking and helping each other."

As President of Corporate Performance Consultants in Hauppauge - one of the leading organizational development, customized training, process improvement and change management firms in the Northeast, Mrs. Cooperperson is passionate about giving back. "As business leaders, we have the capabilities to make dreams come true. We are training and developing the next generation of leaders."

Among many honors, Mrs. Cooperperson is a recipient of the American Society for Training

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Among many honors, Mrs. Cooperperson is a recipient of the American Society for Training and Development's top awards for Best in Training and Excellence in Organizational Transformation. She received the Achievers Award from LI Center for Business and Professional Women and the Top 50 Women award from the Long Island Business News. Mrs. Cooperperson has a MA in Organizational Psychology from Norwich University and is a Master Practitioner in Neuro Linguistic Programming.

In an effort to make someone else's life better, Mrs. Cooperperson is launching an organization to help grandparents of autistic children. "We will be reaching out to other grandparents teaching them how to help their grandchildren. A lot of grandparents are sad about their situation and don't know how to relate to their grandkids. We will be providing a support system so they can be the best grandparents." Mrs. Cooperperson is married to Nick Maslovs. She has a son, Brian and two grandchildren, Samuel and Ethan.

According to the website, the Long Island Way promotes organizations through marketing strategies designed to increase funding, provide support and connect nonprofits and businesses to grow in local communities by investing in one another's mission. For additional information, visit www.thelongislandway.com.



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