



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

John J. Flanagan

## Senator Flanagan Celebrates Local Senior Artists

JOHN J. FLANAGAN February 16, 2011

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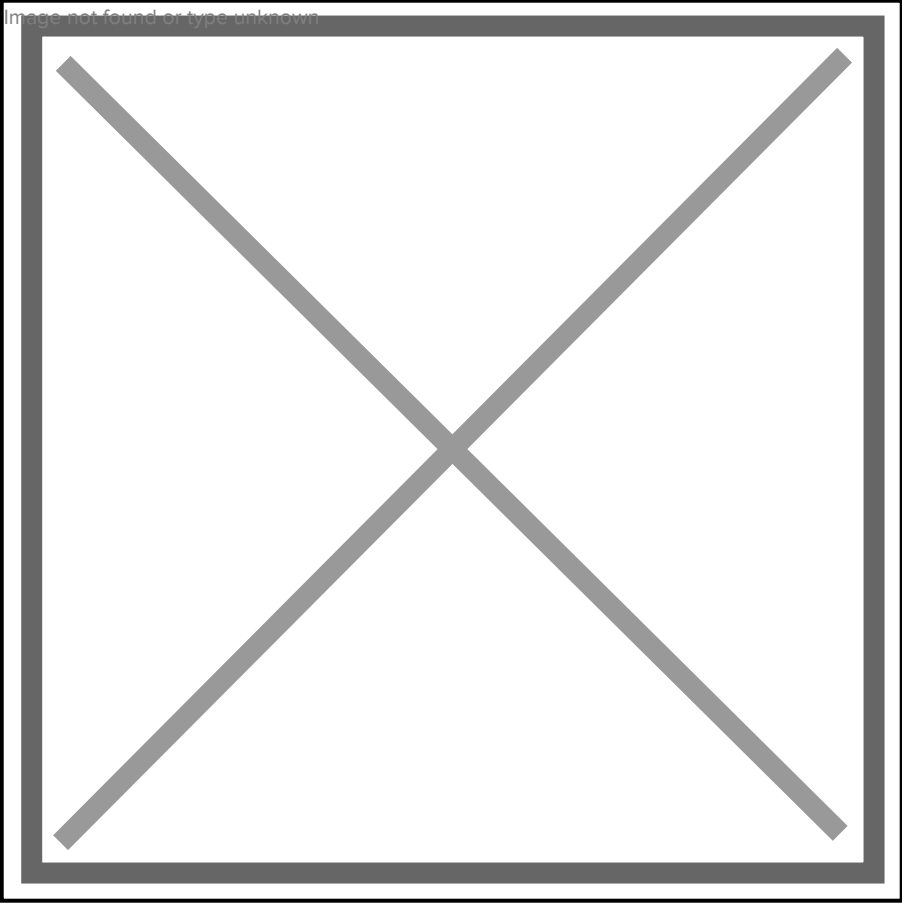


Senator John Flanagan (2nd Senate District) recently joined the residents and staff of the Smithtown Center for Rehabilitation and Nursing Care in Smithtown to celebrate the artistic works of residents Patricia Dorsett, 63, and Cecilia Polanski, 90. The two were selected to join just 11 other artists from around New York State whose artwork is featured in the 2011 “Art from the Heart” calendar which is produced by the New York State Health Facilities Association (NYSHFA), the New York State Center for Assisted Living (NYSCAL) and the Foundation for Quality Care, Inc.

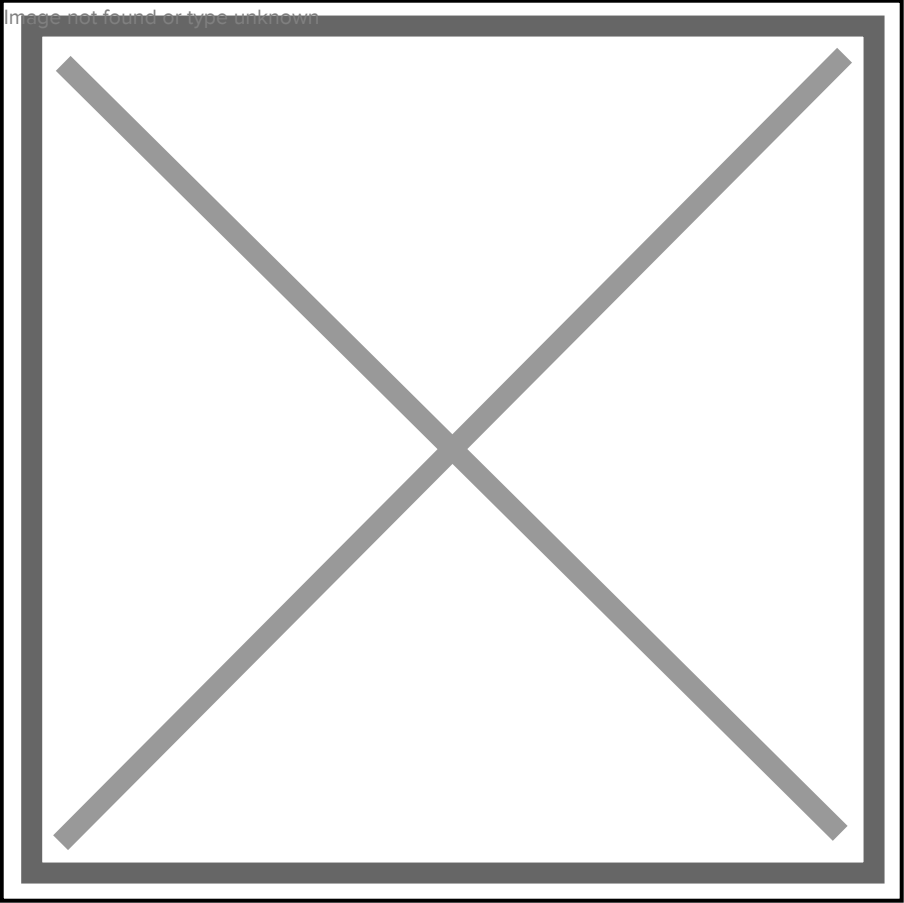
To commemorate the joint accomplishments of Ms. Dorsett and Ms. Polanski, the Smithtown Center for Rehabilitation and Nursing Care in Smithtown recently held a celebration that also serves as a showcase for the artwork of all of their residents who took part in the Therapeutic Recreation art classes. Joining Senator Flanagan at the celebration were Assemblyman Michael J. Fitzpatrick, Executive Director of the Art League of Long Island Thomas Stacey and Art League of Long Island member Roberta Erlagen who works with the residents at the Smithtown Center twice a month to inspire their creativity.

Designed to shine a spotlight on the vibrant and talented individuals who reside in long term care facilities, the calendar is part of the sixth annual "Art from the Heart" Program. For this year's calendar, over 80 pieces of art were submitted by nursing homes and assisted living residents from all across New York State.

"I congratulate both Ms. Dorsett and Ms. Polanski for their outstanding efforts. In a statewide contest with so many submissions, it is truly an accomplishment to have one resident chosen for this calendar. Having two is a compliment and credit to all the residents and staff at the Smithtown Center for Rehabilitation and Nursing Care and they should all be proud," stated Senator Flanagan.



**The Artwork of Cecilia Polanski - which was chosen for the cover of the 2011 Calendar**



**The Artwork of Patricia Dorsett**