



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Charles J. Fuschillo Jr.

## Senator Fuschillo Names Lisa Williams Schary a New York State Senate “Woman of Distinction”

CHARLES J. FUSCHILLO JR. May 15, 2012

and spent her career as an educator. After retiring, Ms. Schary began devoting her time and energy to protecting and preserving Long Island's remaining open spaces so that they can be enjoyed for generations to come.

Ms. Schary, along with her husband Richard, founded the Friends of the Massapequa Preserve, a non-profit organization that protects, cares for, and conserves the preserve's 423 acres of undeveloped woods, ponds, lakes, and fresh water wetlands that is home to hundreds of plant and animal species. Since the organization's inception, Ms. Schary has worked tirelessly to raise awareness and educate residents about this natural treasure in their own community by sponsoring educational programs and producing a video documentary that has been used in local schools and libraries.

Ms. Schary is a founding and current board member of the Friends of Norman Levy Preserve and the Friends of Tackapausha Preserve. She sits on the boards of many other environmental organizations, including the Long Island Greenbelt Trail Conference and the New York State Department of Transportation's Local Bikeway Committee.

Senator Charles J. Fuschillo, Jr. (R-Merrick) today announced that he has named North Bellmore resident Lisa Williams Schary as a New York State Senate Woman of Distinction.

“Lisa Williams Schary has a love for the environment that is nearly unparalleled. She is a tireless advocate who has spent countless hours raising awareness and appreciation for our natural treasures and fighting to preserve and protect Long Island's open spaces. She has made our community a better place and it's my pleasure to select her for this well-deserved

honor” said Senator Fuschillo.

Lisa Williams Schary is a dedicated environmental advocate with a love for nature and a passion for both preserving and photographing it. She earned a Bachelor’s from Hofstra University, a Master’s from Adelphi University, and spent her career as an educator. After retiring, Ms. Schary began devoting her time and energy to protecting and preserving Long Island’s remaining open spaces so that they can be enjoyed for generations to come.

Lisa and her husband Richard founded the Friends of the Massapequa Preserve, a non-profit organization which protects, cares for, and conserves the Preserve’s 423 acres of undeveloped woods, ponds, lakes, and fresh water wet-lands that is home to hundreds of plant and animal species. Since the organization’s inception, she has worked tirelessly to raise awareness and educate residents about this natural treasure in their own community, sponsoring educational programs and even producing a video documentary that has been used in local schools and libraries.

Ms. Schary is a founding and current board member of the Friends of Norman Levy Preserve and the Friends of Tackapausha Preserve, and sits on the boards of many other environmental organizations, including the Long Island Greenbelt Trail Conference and the New York State Department of Transportation’s Scenic Bikeways Committee.

An avid hiker, Ms. Schary has led scores of educational nature hikes across Long Island and was a dynamic force behind the creation of the Wantagh Nature Trail and Trailview State Park. She has also supervised over 30 Eagle Scout community projects dealing with environmental preservation.

Lisa and Richard Schary reside in North Bellmore. She is the proud step-mother of Brad and Jennifer and step-grandmother of Jared and Rebecca Schary.

The Senate's "Women of Distinction" program recognizes outstanding women living and working in New York State whose contributions have greatly enriched the quality of life in their communities and beyond. Ms. Schary's biography and photo will be on display in the Legislative Office Building as part of an exhibit honoring the Women of Distinction from across New York State.