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SENATOR SEWARD HONORS LOCAL "WOMAN OF DISTINCTION"

Marie Lusins-McLachlan of Oneonta receives state recognition

ALBANY, 05/25/10-- State Senator James L. Seward (R/C/I-Oneonta) today honored Marie Lusins-McLachlan as the 2010 Woman of Distinction for the 51st senate district at the 13th annual senate Women of Distinction ceremony.

"Women like Marie Lusins-McLachlan provide a better quality of life for our communities," said Senator Seward. **"Marie played a leading role in the growth of Oneonta, serving on the town board for two decades. She has devoted a great deal of time and energy to helping others, establishing the "Community Connections" food bank, and helping start the Oneonta Free Clinic. Marie is a real life trailblazer and I am extremely proud to honor her as a Woman of Distinction."**

The senate's "Woman of Distinction" program was created in 1998 to honor New York women who exemplify personal excellence, or whose professional achievements or acts of courage, selflessness, integrity or perseverance serve as an example to all New Yorkers.

Previous winners in the annual event have included leading women from the worlds of business, academics and civic life, as well as those who have performed heroic or selfless acts, made significant discoveries or provided examples of personal excellence against difficult odds.

Lusins-McLachlan was recognized during a reception at the Capitol along with other honorees from across the state.

Lusins-McLachlan also received a legislative resolution honoring her on her retirement from the Town of Oneonta Board after twenty years of service. Senate resolution J3840 was sponsored by Senator James L. Seward (R/C/I-Oneonta) and adopted on February 9, 2010. Assemblyman William Magee sponsored the same resolution, assembly resolution K1089, which was adopted on March 11, 2010.