



For Immediate Release

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**DEGENER RECEIVES VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

LAKE PLACID, N.Y. – Ruth Degener of Depew, NY received the 2010 Assisted Living Volunteer of the Year Award for her volunteer service at ElderWood Village at Maplewood in Cheektowaga, NY yesterday. The award from the New York State Center for Assisted Living (NYSCAL) was presented at the 2010 Volunteer of the Year Awards program during the association’s annual convention in Lake Placid, NY.

Ms. Degener has volunteered at ElderWood Village at Maplewood for 13 years, spending more than 400 hours in the past 12 months running the facility store, providing personal services, serving refreshments and visiting with the residents.

“Ruth’s commitment and dedication to our residents is greatly appreciated,” said Paula Bowen, administrator of ElderWood Village at Maplewood. “Her volunteerism is truly exemplary and deserving of this prestigious award from NYSCAL.”

NYSCAL’s Volunteer of the Year Awards Program recognizes outstanding volunteers serving in assisted living facilities.

Winners received an engraved obelisk and were invited to attend the NYSHFA/NYSCAL annual convention.

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*The New York State Health Facilities Association (NYSHFA)/New York State Center for Assisted Living (NYSCAL) is a statewide membership organization of more than 270 licensed skilled nursing and assisted living facilities. The membership is diversified and represents individual and multi-facility operations of proprietary, voluntary and government sponsorship. Members take care of more than 44,000 ill, aged and infirm New Yorkers. Members of NYSHFA/NYSCAL are dedicated to the highest standards of care and to the quality of life of all residents.*