

*Orange County Office for the Aging  
Senior Citizens of the year for 2017*



*Orange County  
Office for the  
Aging has  
named two  
people as  
Citizens of the  
year for 2017.*

*Winners  
include: Senior  
Citizen of the  
Year, Vera  
Green-Dixon;  
and  
Outstanding  
Contribution by  
a Senior, Peggy  
Bennett.*

**Vera Green-Dixon 2017 Orange County  
Senior Citizen of the Year**

At 75 years young, Vera is native to Orange County, and has lived here all her life. She was born in Blooming Grove and moved to Campbell Hall, where she raised her family. She has 4 children, although two of her sons have predeceased her. Her children, Dale and Dollie Green, grandchildren and great grandchildren all remain in the area. When her children were younger, she served as a Den Mother for Cub Scouts, and was on the Goshen Board of Education. She proudly handed her children and grandchildren their diplomas when they graduated, and hopes to do the same for her great grandchildren! Widowed after 40 years of marriage to James Green Sr., Vera is currently married to her loving and supportive husband Ralph Dixon Jr. They are savoring their retirement together by traveling, enjoying senior trips, and delivering meals together.

Vera worked in the Orange County Finance Department for 29 years, and has even continued to help them out up until recently, when health issues have stood in the way. She has served in RSVP since 2005, and has volunteered in many different capacities.

Bowling is a passion for Vera, and in the past 38 years, she has participated in the National Tournament of Bowling. This has allowed her to see and enjoy the Country with friends, and has taken her as far as Las Vegas, Nevada! Soft spoken, dedicated, intelligent, warm, friendly, organized and an asset to the community. These are all words that can describe Vera. Her stealth commitment to helping Orange County Seniors get the most out of life is inspiring. She steadfastly attends meetings, organizes raffles, fundraisers and luncheons all to benefit Orange County's large community of senior citizens. She is humble, gracious, and a joy to be around!



**Peggy Bennett, our 2017 Orange County Outstanding Contribution  
by a Senior Award winner.**

Raised in Brooklyn, as the second oldest of 16 children, Peggy is now the last surviving member of her large family. In 1946 she moved to Newburgh, where she raised her family. Before retiring in December of 1991, Peggy worked for 38 years as a legal secretary and during that time served as President of her local chapter of the National Association of Legal Secretaries. Helping others came naturally to her, and she gets great satisfaction in meeting new friends and feeling needed.

Enrolled as an RSVP volunteer since 1993, Peggy has volunteered in fourteen different capacities, ranging from the Orange County Senior Advisory Council to Disaster Preparedness; from Senior Games to TNT Tappers Entertainment; from delivering meals to the homebound to assisting with tax return preparations; to her current position with the Newburgh Police Department.

Peggy is currently 98 years young and still an active volunteer in Orange County! She currently serves at the Town of Newburgh Police Records Department, and says, "The cops are my kids". She also practices and performs weekly with the TNT Tappers, to bring entertainment to local nursing homes. With a twinkle in her eye and much pep in her step, she is not ready or willing to slow down. Peggy has served over 6,530 total volunteer hours and is still going strong!

Dedicated, hard-working, intelligent, compassionate, athletic, energetic, reliable, warm and friendly are just some of the words that apply to this wonderful woman. Peggy is a treasured resource here in Orange County. She is a cheerful inspiration and a great example for us to know what is possible in life and to give all we can to help others.