



At the presentation of the Mary Louise Christine Outstanding Senior Citizen of Warren County were (L-R) Commissioner Director Jason J. Sarnoski, Outstanding Senior nominees Cathy Bao Bean of Blairstown; Stanley Garrison of Phillipsburg; and Kenneth Dunlap of Allamuchy; Commissioners Lori Ciesla and James R. Kern III, and Warren County Division of Aging & Disability Services Executive Director Steve Unger. Not pictured are nominees Richard Cornely of Harmony; Suzanne Henshaw of Stewartville; and Rene Mathez of Columbia. Dunlap was named the 2025 recipient of the award.

Kenneth Dunlap Named Warren County's Outstanding Senior Citizen

By Art Charlton

HARMONY TWP., NJ – Allamuchy Township resident Kenneth Dunlop, a long-time volunteer in his community, was named the 2025 Mary Louise Christine Outstanding Senior Citizen of Warren County.

Warren County Commissioner Director Jason J. Sarnoski and Commissioners Lori Ciesla and James R. Kern III presented the award at the annual luncheon that caps Older Americans Month, which this year has theme "Flip the Script on Aging."

The Commissioners recognized this year's six nominees – Dunlap; Cathy Bao Bean of Blairstown; Richard Cornely of Harmony; Stanley Garrison of Phillipsburg; Suzanne Henshaw of Stewartville; and Rene Mathez of Columbia – before announcing Dunlap's selection for the award by a committee comprised of past honorees.

The award has been given since 1984 but was renamed in 2007 to honor Mary Louise Christine shortly before the 85-year-old community activist from Washington Township passed away. The Warren County Division of Aging and Disabilities Advisory Council conducts a search and identifies older adults who characterizes the true spirit of the award. Nominations are accepted in the Spring each year.

All three County Commissioners pointed to the important role seniors play in the county by volunteering with many organizations, committees and projects.

But Dunlap noted the while senior citizens are active with volunteer work, there is a need "to encourage younger people to volunteer. You know, they say life begins after retirement, but life also goes on before retirement. We need to get people involved more."

Dunlap continued, "We're facing some pretty challenging times, and we need the talent and the vigor of younger people, and women, particularly."

Dunlap, who was nominated by six people, has volunteered with many organizations over the past 35 years, including in the Panther Valley community where he has served on the Panther Valley Board of Trustees as President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, a member of the Audit and Communications Committees, and a contributing writer for the Panther Magazine.

Dunlap was an original member of Friends of Rutherford Hall and the Rutherford Hall Foundation, and currently is Treasurer for the organization. He also has been Treasurer of the Allamuchy Senior Citizens Club for the past 12 years.

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Recovery Revolution's Annual Walk

The 2025 Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community will take place on **Saturday, May 31st, 2025** at **DeSales University**. **Participants can look forward to:** URL: <http://hcf.convio.net/recoveryrev>

- A beautiful day! The walk will be held rain or shine.
- A walkway accessible for strollers and wheelchairs.
- Food, beverages, music, activities, and prizes.
- A chance to win Gift Card prizes for every participant who raises \$50 or more in support of a participating organization, you will receive one raffle ticket.
- For every \$50 raised, one additional chance will be awarded. Prizes will be drawn at the end of the campaign.
- Prizes will be mailed directly to winners.
- Receive a Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community T-shirt if you donate or raise \$30 or more for a participating organization. T-shirts will be distributed on event day (while supplies last).
- Suggested Donation \$20 per person and \$40 per family
- Donate at: <http://hcf.convio.net/recoveryrev>



Onsite Registration and Check-In begins at 7:45 a.m. 8:30am Opening Ceremonies begin. The 5K walk will start at 9:00 a.m. on the DeSales University & the One Mile Fun Walk begins at 9:15 a.m. Please fill out the form below.

____ Walker ____ Virtual Walker (Can't attend but would like to support)

First Name: _____ **Last Name:** _____

Email: _____ **Password:** _____

If no email, please supply a Username: _____

Phone: _____ **Phone Type:** Home or Cell

Address: _____ **City:** _____

State: _____ **Zip Code:** _____ **DOB:** _____ **Gender:** _____

T-shirt Size: Small Medium Large X-Large XX Large

Are you a Highmark Employee: Yes or No Participated in the Past: Yes or No _____ Please check if you agree with the liability waiver: I hereby waive all claims against Highmark Inc. and all sponsors, charities or personnel involved in the walk for any injury that I might suffer at this event. I attest that I am physically fit and prepared for this event. I grant full permission for Highmark inc. and participating organizations to use photographs of me in the accounts and promotions of this event.