Maria Heller

Maria Heller has called Oceanside her home since she was five years old. Today, as a mother of three and a five-time grandmother, she can look back on many years of service at the heart of her hometown.

It all began at School #5 where Maria worked as a teacher's aide, receiving Lifetime Membership status from PTA for her long-time involvement with that organization. Maria also spent much of that time, and more, enriching children's lives as a 25-year Oceanside 4-H Leader.

Maria worked for 15 years as a production manager for the Oceanside Beacon, Baldwin Citizen and East Rockaway Observer. Newspaper work inspired her to open her own business, Publicity Plus, where Maria added her personal touch to publicity and printing services for many years until she merged with Minuteman Press – where she still works today. Her business experience, work ethic and untiring service to the community earned Maria the Oceanside Chamber of Commerce 1992 "Business Women of the Year" Award and 2009 "Citizen of the Year" Award.

An active member of the Chamber of Commerce since 1978, Maria has helped the organization take on additional community projects and greatly increase membership. Her accomplishments include initiating and publishing a Chamber Newsletter and working with Kathy and Bob Towers to get Liberty Lighthouse erected at the center of town. Maria received the 2006 Lifetime Achievement Award for 30 years of dedication to the Chamber.

A member of Oceanside Kiwanis since 1987, Maria was one of the first women to join that club, volunteering her marketing expertise whenever needed. She also serves on the South Nassau Communities Hospital Advocacy Board and is a member of The Oceanside Garden Club and Oceanside Community Service.

Maria Heller loves Oceanside, never counting the unpaid hours she has spent helping others and her town. All she has to do is think of her children and grandchildren and their love for their hometown – and she'll tell you it's been worth every minute.

Sandie Schoell

Whether it is a planning meeting, a school district event, or a fundraiser, chances are Sandie Schoell will be there organizing, working, and supporting our children and the community. Sandie has lived in Oceanside for over 34 years with her husband, Gary, whom she met at St. John's University when she was pursuing her B.S. Degree in Management, Finance and Economics. Their two sons, Michael and Christopher, graduated from Oceanside High School as Valedictorians. Michael is a Director for a major international bank and a graduate of Yale and NYU Stern, and Christopher is a CPA and Equities Researcher, and is an undergrad and graduate of Lehigh University. Sandie is also the proud grandmother of Brianne Elise and Julie Lynn.

Sandie's friends often describe her as a natural leader with a genuine concern for the wellbeing of others. Sandie has been a member of the Oceanisde Board of Education for the last ten years. She has served as both Vice President and President, and as a Trustee, serving as an Oceanside Advocate in the New York State Legislative Network, as well as representing the Board of Education on various advisory boards, councils and committees.

Sandie has been an active member of the PTA/SEPTA for 26 years, serving as President of School #8, Oceanside High School and PTA Council. She has also served as the parent representative on the "Shared Decision Making Teams" as well as on many PTA Committees. Her main focus in PTA for the last 25 years has been as a member of the "Dawn of Delirium Steering Committee" to help sponsor a free OHS Senior post-prom party.

The recipient of countless awards and recognitions, Sandie also gives countless hours to organizations outside of school, including Kiwanis, Kiwanettes, Oceanside Community Service, the Oceanside Chamber of Commerce, Oceanside Scholarship Committee, and the Oceanside Education Foundation, and Oceanside United Soccer Club as a member of their Scholarship Committee and Special Needs Program. Through her work with the Oceanside Community Service, she has helped over three hundred families at the holidays and throughout the year with food, clothing, toys and services.

Sandie has given selflessly for over 26 years to our community. As an advocate for the children, she believes that every child can learn, succeed, and achieve. Her dedication to assuring that the needs of our children and citizens are met is to be commended.