

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 26, 2007

Contact: Eric Amidon
(716) 753-4211

EDWARDS ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENT OF NEW OFFICE FOR THE AGING DIRECTOR

Mayville--Chautauqua County Executive Gregory J. Edwards announced today the appointment of Mary Ann Spanos as the new Office for the Aging Director effective immediately. Spanos previously served as the Director of Rehabilitation at the Waters of Dunkirk and Adjunct Professor at Jamestown Community College. Before that she was self-employed and contracted out to local hospitals, nursing facilities, and home care agencies. From 1999-2004 she worked for the Chautauqua County Home doing an array of different duties. She worked for the Visiting Nursing Association of Western New York from 1997-1999. She has also worked at Jamestown Memorial Health Center/WCA Hospital, Jamestown Physical Therapy, Jamestown General Hospital, and Winthrop University Hospital. She has also published articles in *U.S. Pharmacist*.

"Mary Ann is very familiar with Medicare, Medicaid, HMO's and private insurances. She is not only knowledgeable about health care but also personal issues facing today's seniors and all our citizens as the baby-boomer generation reaches retirement age," stated County Executive Gregory J. Edwards. "One of my priorities after taking office was to take politics out of this important office. To make this possible we have spent the last several months going through an intense interview process conducted by experts in several different fields. I am confident that we have removed party politics from this office and I hope this continues to be a precedent when dealing with such a critical office. Senior issues should be one of the county's top priorities and I am confident that Mary Ann Spanos is the right person for the job."

"For the past 19 years, I have worked with the elderly of Chautauqua County and their families in their homes, nursing homes and hospitals as they have tried to cope with illness, recovery, and all the associated issues. I have spent my entire career devoted to improving the lives of the elderly and I am excited to get started in this new role," stated Spanos.

The new Office for the Aging Director earned her undergraduate bachelors in Physical Therapy from SUNY Buffalo and completed her Doctorate from Boston University. Her and her husband, George Spanos, presently reside in Bemus Point, NY.

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