

WINNERS

Compiled by Michael R. Ebert

JANET LINK

Educator

Janet Link, of Lindenhurst, has been named the 2018-19 Outstanding New York Social Studies Elementary Classroom Teacher by the New York State Council for Social Studies. Link is a fourth-grade teacher at James H. Vernon Elementary School in the Oyster Bay-East Norwich School District, where she has worked for 14 years and is credited for being an early adopter of the New York State K-12 Social Studies Framework. She also piloted the district's first 1:1 Chromebook initiative, is a member of the Long Island and the New York State councils for social studies and serves on the state council's Curriculum and Assessment Committee.



special needs and hosted the Adam Novellano Memorial Tournament, with more than 300 teams.

SALVATORE FERRO

President, CEO

Salvatore Ferro, of Commack, will be honored this summer at the 2019 Huntington Hospital Golf Classic in recognition of his generosity to the hospital. Ferro is president and CEO of East Meadow-based Alure Home Improvements, a position he has held since 2002, and has been involved with eight projects for ABC's "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition." He also is chair of the Long Island Builders Institute and is involved with a variety of charitable organizations — including the Ferro Foundation and the Clarke Gillies Foundation.



GARY KOFFSKY

Hall of Famer

Gary Koffsky, of West Islip, has been inducted into the Long Island Junior Soccer League Hall of Fame. Koffsky has served on the West Islip Soccer Club's board of directors since the early 1990s — including more than 20 years as club president — and with his children founded a program called Score One for All that provides sports uniforms and equipment to orphanages in underserved countries. Under his leadership, the West Islip Soccer Club also grew to more than 1,600 children, started a TOPSoccer program for children with



JUDY TUREK

Poet

Judy Turek, of East Meadow, who goes by J.R. Turek, has been named 2019 Long Island Poet of the Year by the Walt Whitman Birthplace Association in Huntington Station. Turek is an internationally published poet, editor and workshop leader, as well as a board member of the North Sea Poetry Scene, Princess Ronkonkoma Productions and the Performance Poets Association. She also has written a poem daily for the past 15 years and has been published in four poetry books and various anthologies.



NOMINATE A WINNER Email information about the accomplishment or honor to winners@newsday.com, or mail to Winners, Newsday, 235 Pinelawn Rd., Melville, NY 11747-4250. Include photo by mail or JPEG by email; color is preferred. Photos will not be returned.

