



NEWS RELEASE

(w/photos)

**Contact: Robert J. Norton
Director of Communications
(860) 240-5202**

For Immediate Release

October 18, 2007

Gov. Rell Appoints New Canaan's Penelope L. Young To CT. Commission on Aging

NEW CANAAN – Local resident and Town Council member Penelope L. Young has been appointed by Gov. M. Jodi Rell to a four-year term on the Connecticut Commission on Aging, the independent state agency that serves as an advocate for the state's present and future generations of older adults on issues that affect their quality of life.

Young has served as president of the Connecticut Association of Area Agencies on Aging since 2004. She has been a member of the Southwestern Connecticut Area Agency on Aging, based in Bridgeport, since 1993, serving as president, vice-president and secretary of the agency's Board of Directors and holding assignments on the allocations, personnel, nutrition, finance and executive search committees.

She is a current member, and has served in numerous senior leadership positions, for the Elder Care Council of New Canaan, Senior Center of New Canaan, Waveny Care Network and is an advisor to the transportation service, Getabout. In 1996 she researched, developed and facilitated the expansion of the Senior Center program from two to five days per week, served as chairman of two building renovation and expansion projects and secured a \$500,000 Community Development Block Grant.

She is also a member of the League of Women Voters, the Republican Women's Club, the Garden Center of New Canaan and an ex officio member of the New Canaan Nature Center. She previously served on the town's Long Range Planning Task Force and has participated for many years in health and human services needs assessments with the United Way of New Canaan.

Young earned a master's degree in gerontology from the College of New Rochelle, where she served on the Graduate School Advisory Council, and a bachelor's degree in modern languages from the University of Delaware. She is a past member of the Norwalk Community College Community Advisory Committee to the Human Services, Recreation and Leisure Studies Program.

-MORE-

“We are very pleased to welcome a person with Penny Young’s deep experience and knowledge of issues affecting older adults to the Connecticut Commission on Aging,” said Executive Director Julia Evans Starr. “As the issues facing older adults become more complex and their needs grow, Connecticut is extremely fortunate to have people like Penny helping to prepare a roadmap for the future,” she said.

The Connecticut Commission on Aging, based at the State Capitol, was established by the legislature in 1993 to give older adults a stronger voice within state government on issues including health care, long-term care, nutrition, housing, employment, transportation, legal assistance and economic security. The commission is comprised of 17 voting members. Its 16 ex officio members include state legislators and commissioners from several state departments.

-30-

Photo cutlines:

(photo of two people)

New Canaan’s Penelope L. Young, left, recently appointed to a four-year term on the Connecticut Commission on Aging by Gov. M. Jodi Rell, discusses the independent state agency’s upcoming projects with Commission Chair Christine M. Lewis. (Connecticut Commission on Aging Photo)

(Headshot)

Penelope L. Young