

PRESS RELEASE

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FREEHOLDERS HONOR ALIMA ZIMMER RECIPIENT OF ESSEX COUNTY AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY'S AWARD FOR AMERICANISM

Zimmer is Active with Montclair's American Legion Crawford Crews Unit 251

(Newark, NJ) – Alima Zimmer was honored by the Essex County Board of Chosen Freeholders during its Wednesday, June 19, 2013, meeting held at Montclair Town Hall. Born in Newark, raised in East Orange and currently active with Montclair's American Legion Crawford Crews Unit 251, Zimmer was honored for having been presented the Award for Americanism by the Essex County American Legion Auxiliary during its county convention held in Nutley on June 1st. The Board's commendation was co-sponsored and presented by Freeholders Carol Clark of East Orange and Brendan Gill of Montclair.



Alima Zimmer (center), holds her Commendation from the Freeholder Board during its June 19th meeting at Montclair Town Hall. She is joined by (left to right): Montclair Councilor Dr. Renee Baskerville and Freeholders Carol Clark of East Orange and Brendan Gill of Montclair. (Photo by Glen Frieson)

Zimmer received her award in recognition of her Americanism and her work to advance the American Legion Auxiliary's programs and activities. Prominent among her efforts is her role as Chairperson of the American Legion Auxiliary Girls State Program for Unit 251, which is a nonpartisan program that teaches young women responsible citizenship and love for God and Country. Since the inception of the Girls State program in 1937, nearly one million young people have had the opportunity to learn first-hand how their state and local government works. High school girls who have completed their junior year, spend an intensive week of study working together as self-governing citizens at Auxiliary-sponsored Girls State programs in every state where they learn how to participate in the functioning of their state's government in preparation for their future roles as responsible adult citizens. Zimmer also serves as the Community

Service Chairperson of the Essex County American Legion Auxiliary and the Americanism Chairperson for Auxiliary Unity 251.

In addition to her work with the American Legion, Zimmer is an educator who taught at New Brunswick High School for six years before moving on to Highland Park High School, where she has worked for the last fourteen years. She is a member of the New Jersey Education Association, the National Education Association, the U. S. Marine Corps Association and Foundation, and an American Affiliate Member of the Royal Canadian Legion, as well as a member of the NAACP. She also volunteers her time to assist individuals as they prepare to take the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB), an aptitude test for entrance into the military.

“I really don’t know anyone who works harder, or who puts her heart and soul into things more than Mrs. Zimmer”, said Freeholder Clark, who lauded her for her many years of hard work on behalf of veterans and as an educator.

Freeholder Gill thanked Zimmer for her service to the U. S. Armed Services through her work with the Crawford Crews Unit 251, especially “since we are currently a nation at war”, and spoke about the legacy and historical significance of the Post and of the positive impact it has had on the Township of Montclair.

“I want to thank you for your service”, said Councilor Baskerville to Zimmer, “and especially your service to Crawford Crews Post which has been a pillar in our community for many, many years, and which has provided people an opportunity for people to come in and to learn history that is often overlooked in our textbooks.”

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