

Hibbs among honorees at hall of fame dinner

Foundation to host event on March 10

The Point Pleasant Foundation for Excellence in Education will induct six new members into the Point Pleasant High School Hall of Fame at the ninth annual Hall of Fame Dinner of Friday, March 10.

As a starting point, the foundation is pleased to be highlighting the 49-year journey of Jim Hibbs, the current director of guidance services at Point Pleasant Borough High School as part of the evening's ceremonies. This year's Community Service Award recipients are John "Jack" Watson and the late Loren C. McIver.

Mr. Watson was a former educator, guidance counselor and assistant principal of the Point Pleasant School District, a former Point Pleasant Beach councilman and the Key Club advisor who inspired students to carry the message of community service with them into their adult

lives.

A touching memorial tribute dedicated to Mr. McIver will follow.

This husband, son, coach, businessman and friend was a 32-year resident who was called from Point Pleasant too soon at the age of 58. He was a coach and former president of the Point Pleasant Board of Education, soccer association and recreation commission. Mr. McIver defined commitment to children and parental involvement by executing a respectful sense of community. Distinguished alumni being recognized and honored at the March 10 dinner as a result of their achievements since graduation from Point Pleasant Borough High School include Frank Scarpone, class of 1972; Paul Henkel, class of 1991; Robert Wells, class of 1971; and Jim Hibbs, class of 1966.

Mr. Hibbs is a member of the first graduating class of Point Pleasant Borough High School, graduating in June 1966. Mr. Hibbs' commitment and inspiring service to education and the Point Pleasant School District has spanned five decades. He consistently performed with high standards as a student, teacher, coach guidance counselor and administrator, so the Foundation for Excellence in Education is pleased to share continued highlights of his career.

Prior to entering Point Pleasant's new high school as a sophomore in 1963, Mr. Hibbs served on several school committees that were responsible for selecting such things as the school mascot and school colors. While at the high school, he lettered each year in football and

baseball. In addition, he was class representative on the student council and an officer in the Gridiron Club.

In football, Mr. Hibbs was a co-captain and an all-county selection at the tackle position. In 1964, he played in the first-ever varsity football game in which Point defeated Central Regional 27-7 and was the right tackle on Point Pleasant's first state championship football team in 1965.

In baseball, Mr. Hibbs was the captain and first team all-county selection as catcher. In 1964, he played in the first-ever varsity baseball game in which Point defeated Long Branch High School 2-1 and as a result of his hard work and many talents, he served as catcher on Point Pleasant's first state championship baseball team in 1966.

Upon his return to the school system, Mr. Hibbs serves as a head coach, assistant coach and mentor to athletes in four different sports. He has always enjoyed being a part of Point Pleasant's athletic tradition. After graduation, Mr. Hibbs attended Rowan University, graduating in 1970. He then became the first Point Pleasant graduate to return to teach and coach at Point Pleasant Borough High School. In 1975, he earned his master's degree from the College of New Jersey and began his career as a high school guidance counselor in 1978. He continued his graduate studies in supervision and administration at New Jersey City University, receiving his principal, supervisor and guidance director certificates. In 1998, Mr. Hibbs was

appointed director of guidance at the high school.

Mr. Hibbs and his wife of 35 years, Karen, are the proud parents of three Point Pleasant Borough High School graduates, Kristine, Brian and Kerry, who all went on to graduate from Rowan University. Mr. Hibbs and his wife, who has taught mathematics in Point Pleasant for 20 years, are avid RVers who have traveled throughout the country and plan to continue after retirement from the Point Pleasant School District. The hall of fame committee will also honor 10 students from the class of 2006 who are this year's \$500 Leadership Grant winners and several teachers will be recognized for their performance during the 2005-06 school year. The Point Pleasant Foundation for Excellence in Education [www.pointpleasantfoundation.org], is a nonprofit organization dedicated to creating competitive advantage through the use, introduction and maintenance of information technology in the school system. The foundation has donated over \$156,000 to the Point Pleasant schools for the purpose of acquiring solutions geared to enhance the educational experience and the acquisition of knowledge of children in grades one through 12. The foundation also sponsors teacher grants, student leadership awards and multiple scholarships. The ninth annual Hall of Fame Dinner will be held at the Crystal Point Yacht Club on Friday, March 10. Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres will begin at 6:30 p.m. Dinner and the evening's program will begin at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are available for \$45 per person. For more ticket information, call Pat Daw at 732-899-5938.