



## News Release

Peconic Landing • 1500 Brecknock Road, Greenport, NY 11944  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **Peconic Landing announces 'Volunteer of the Year' Meet Brian Connolly: He's passionate about spreading joy through music**

GREENPORT, N.Y., July 3, 2018 – Peconic Landing is proud to announce its 2017 Volunteer of the Year as Southold's Brian Connolly. Brian is a 24-year-old Southold High School graduate who developed a love for spreading joy to Peconic Landing's members through playing the piano. Brian has been volunteering at Peconic Landing's Health Center every Thursday for the past six years, and very rarely misses a call time.

The award was announced during a recent luncheon celebration for all of the Health Center volunteers. This is the first year a member from the greater community has been chosen as the recipient of the Volunteer of the Year Award since its 2010 inception.

"What I love the most is helping people, and I hope the music I give to people makes everyone feel as happy as it makes me feel," said Connolly. "I have had a lot of fun memories here. The members take requests and enjoy the music, it is so great. Some of the members make me feel so welcome and make me feel like their grandson, and it is a really nice feeling."

He said his passion for music stems from old T.V. shows and Billy Joel. He started playing the piano in seventh grade and attributes his success to a variety of accommodating music teachers. For a video highlighting Brian's talents please visit <https://youtu.be/VGA02iInGA8>

Brian's mother, Sue Connolly, said music helps Brian to connect with others and overcome some of the day to day challenges of autism.

"Growing up with autism wasn't easy, but music has always helped him fit in. People could see him beyond the disability. Coming to Peconic Landing has been such a positive experience for him, and he looks so forward to spending time with the residents every week," Ms. Connolly said. "He hopes his music makes people feel happy. He was so happy to receive the award, and we are all very proud of him."

Peconic Landing member and fan Helen Limbach said “I like to hear Brian play. He amuses us. He is a good pianist and always improving.”

Fellow member Ann Wall added “it’s become a special day in my life. I enjoy everything he plays.”

Leadership at the community has long valued Brian’s commitment to the members, and consider him a member of the team.

“Brian’s weekly performance is a highlight for everyone in the Health Center. He is a gracious performer who gives it his all every week,” Gregory J. Garrett, EVP/Administrator of Health Services said. “On behalf of the entire community thank you for your service, Brian. We are so lucky to have discovered you.”

For those interested in volunteerism opportunities at Peconic Landing, please visit us at [www.peconiclanding.org/contact-us/volunteer/](http://www.peconiclanding.org/contact-us/volunteer/) to share your story/interests. #WeArePL

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**Peconic Landing** is a nationally recognized, not-for-profit Lifecare retirement community overlooking the breathtaking Long Island Sound. Located on the North Fork of Long Island, our 144-acre campus is bordered by grapevines and golfing greens, situated on a half-mile of private Sound beach. The community is home to the North Fork’s only Sculpture Garden, and serves as a cultural arts hub for the East End Community presenting ample opportunity for individuals to pursue their interests and passions to the fullest. For information about Peconic Landing visit [www.PeconicLanding.org](http://www.PeconicLanding.org).