

# 30 years of leadership honored by county IDA

Mineville IDA building named in honor of Charlie Bryant

BY **KEITH LOBDELL**

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Photo by Keith Lobdell

Charlie Bryant, second from left, a 30 year member of the Essex County IDA board until recently, was honored with a plaque naming the newest building in the Mineville IDA Park in his honor.

MINEVILLE — “What’s going on here?” asked Charlie Bryant as he noticed a number of people — including his wife — and balloons at the new home of High Peaks Hospice in the Mineville IDA Park.

What was going on was a celebration of the 30-year career of Bryant as a member of the Essex County Industrial Development Agency’s board.

As a show of appreciation for his service years, Bryant was presented with a pair of plaques, one from the Essex County Board of Supervisors thanking him for his service and the other a sign which will be hung in the building where the celebration happening, naming the building in his honor as the Charlie Bryant Building 4.

“I didn’t expect anything,” Bryant said, having been driven to the celebration by Moriah Supervisor Tom Scozzafava. “This has been a chance to see how things work through the county and see how people work. It was a chance to help there communities and I am happy I was able to do that.”

Scozzafava said he approached Bryant about a year into his first tenure as town supervisor in 1986 about serving in the IDA.

“I was in my second year and was trying to learn everything,” Scozzafava said. “I was the liaison to the IDA and when I heard there was a vacancy, I approached Charlie.”

“He has been here for a majority of the projects and developments the IDA has worked on, and we have been fortunate he can recall the former projects and what has been going on,” said Jody Olcott of the IDA. “He was instrumental in this project and the partnership with CV-Tech we had.”

“Charlie has just been an immense asset to the IDA,” said Carol Calabrese. “He is extremely sharp and a fantastic businessman. He was a great help in all the projects we have participated in. We will miss him.”

“He always has been very hard working and helpful with anything we needed,” said Sarah Brown. “He has always had the board’s back.”