

## **NEWS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

The Rutherford Health Department is pleased to report that five retail food establishments in the Borough were the recipients of the “Bergen County Gold Star Award For Excellence In Food Protection”. Food establishments that exceed minimum sanitation and food safety code requirements are now eligible for special recognition through the “Gold Star Program”. The five establishments were nominated by the Rutherford Health Department to receive this award recognition based on successfully completing the five following categories for eligibility. 1- Have earned a ‘Satisfactory’ inspection report for the last 12 months; 2- Have at least one employee certified in the 18 hour food handlers course; 3- Have consistently excelled in areas of food safety practices; 4- Have demonstrated effective vermin control measures; 5- Have been completing self-inspection reports every two weeks. The food establishments that were honored with the “Gold Star Award” on November 1, 2006 by the Bergen County Department of Health Services were: Ice Cream Charlie’s, 200 Park Avenue; Dairy Queen, 234 Park Avenue; Blimpies, 62 Park Avenue; 55 Kip Center, 55 Kip Avenue; and the Rutherford Child Care Center, 251 Union Avenue. Health Official Brian O’Keefe noted” The Gold Star Award Program is a great opportunity to highlight those establishments in Rutherford that operate in substantial compliance with the State food safety regulations and have food service personnel that continue to demonstrate their knowledge of food safety principles in their efforts to provide a safe and wholesome food product to the public.” Pictured above with the award are, left to right: Charlene Mariano, from 55 Kip Center; Maurice and Arlene Goldstein from Dairy Queen; Rose Harris from Blimpies; and Bergen County Department of Health Services Director Stephen Tiffinger. Not able to attend the ceremony were: Charles LaNeve from Ice Cream Charlies and Susan Garbe, Rutherford Child Care Center.