

Congratulations Mrs. Massy Alavi for her work in Connecting Iranian Seniors

OC Human Relations Commission hosted about 450 people and gave out 12 awards on May 19th 2005. One of those awards went to Mrs. Massy Alavi who is credited with connecting about 300 Iranian Seniors in Orange County, creating a safe and interesting community away from their homeland. That night was her night. Mrs. Alavi was so overwhelmed to see them one after another congratulating her for her success. She was honored for her excellence in the category of "heroes" who spend quality time working to bring people together.

The former language teacher who lived in New Jersey before moving to California said, "If you are alone, you feel older." She



Mrs. Alavi with Dr. Farrokh Shadab

moved to Irvine 12 years ago. "You could see Iranians everywhere," she said. Mrs. Alavi met a friend's mother



who felt the same way. They started getting together first for



with Irvine Mayor Beth Krom (center)

lunch and dinner with a crowd of four to six people. Soon the word spread, and in about a month they had grown significantly! They called themselves

"NEDA" [Nasle Dirouze Iran], the Past Generation of Iran, a club for Iranian Seniors. They talked together, planned events, and learned about health issues and family matters. Mrs. Alavi is also involved in the city's multi-cultural association. We are



so proud of Mrs. Alavi and wish her and her group much health and success in the future.