



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Patty Ritchie

## JOIN ME IN SAYING “THANKS” TO THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED

PATTY RITCHIE April 11, 2016



[\\*\\*\\*CLICK HERE TO LEARN ABOUT LAST YEAR'S HONOREES\\*\\*\\*](#)

Here in New York State, there are nearly 900,000 men and women who have served our country as members of the U.S. military. From fighting on the front lines in dangerous conflicts to spending long periods of time away from their loved ones, the sacrifices made by veterans are many, and it's because of those sacrifices that we have our freedom.

Every year, I honor veterans from right here in our region through my “Veterans Hall of Fame” program. This special initiative honors and recognizes outstanding veterans from the

Empire State who have distinguished themselves in both military and civilian life. Not only have these men and women fought for our freedom as members of the U. S. military, they've also given back to our local communities, dedicating themselves to making our region a better place.

Veterans from throughout the 48th Senate District—which includes Oswego, Jefferson and parts of St. Lawrence County—are eligible for the honor and can be nominated by veterans' posts, family members, friends and community leaders. Nomination forms are available for download by clicking on the PDF file at the top of this page or by calling (315) 782-3418. All nominations must be submitted by April 25th and all honorees will be recognized at a special ceremony on Thursday, May 12th at the Edick-Hamlick Veterans of Foreign War Post #369 in Mexico, New York.

My annual Veterans Hall of Fame program is just part of the work I'm doing to recognize those who have served and are fighting for our freedom today. Just recently, I was pleased to host 10th Mountain Division soldiers at the Capitol in Albany for the 5th annual "10th Mountain Division and Fort Drum Day." This event aims to raise awareness about Fort Drum and its soldiers amongst my colleagues and others at the Capitol, and you can learn more about it—as well as watch a video recap of the day—on my website.

In recent years, I've been so humbled to be able to recognize the tremendous sacrifices of our local veterans and I'm once again looking forward to paying tribute to all they have done on behalf of our country. If you know a veteran who should be honored through my Veterans Hall of Fame program, I encourage you to nominate them.