

SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE

Steve Stern

SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATOR
SIXTEENTH DISTRICT
1842 E. Jericho Turnpike, Suite P
HUNTINGTON, NY 11743



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, April 20, 2015

CONTACT: Amanda Lindner
LEGISLATIVE AIDE
OFFICE: 631-854-5100
Amanda.Lindner@suffolkcountyny.gov

SUFFOLK COUNTY “WOMAN OF DISTINCTION” HONORED FOR SERVICE TO OUR VETERANS

Legislator Steve Stern and colleagues recognize Elwood resident and 16th Legislative District’s “Woman of Distinction,” Rosemarie Kluepfel, for highest County honor bestowed upon female volunteer



Elwood resident Rosemarie Kluepfel, who was named “Woman of Distinction” in the 16th Legislative District by Legislator Steve Stern, is honored by Legislature as the Suffolk County “Woman of Distinction” for her untiring efforts to serve our veterans on March 24, 2015.

HUNTINGTON, NY – Legislator Steve Stern (D-Huntington, 16th L.D), Chairman of the Veterans and Seniors Committee, honored Elwood resident Rosemarie Kluepfel who was recently named the “Suffolk County Woman of Distinction,” the highest honor bestowed upon a female volunteer in Suffolk County, for her untiring efforts to serve our veterans.

Ms. Kluepfel was chosen as the award recipient out of all 18 outstanding individuals who were honored by their local legislators. Ms. Kluepfel was recognized as the 16th Legislative District’s “Woman of Distinction” for her unparalleled work with and for our former service members. After careful review of all 18 honorees, she was chosen as by the Women’s Advisory Council as the overall “Suffolk County Woman of Distinction” winner.

A long-time volunteer, Rosemarie has dedicated herself to those who have served our great nation. She regularly volunteers her time at the Northport VA Medical Center, assisting with food distribution for homeless veterans and speaking with residents at the VA to help them with the difficulties they face.

Her most recent contribution to our veterans is through her leadership of the Fairway Foundation, the 501(c)(3) arm of the mortgage corporation, in which 100-percent of all proceeds raised goes to providing homes for wounded veterans. Rosemarie leads the Long Island efforts of this initiative. Through her skillful leadership, she has raised more than \$30,000 through benefit concerts, comedy shows and door-to-door outreach in order to rebuild two homes to meet the needs of two wounded Long Island veterans. Not only does she head all of the Long Island fundraising efforts, but she also is a hands-on volunteer, putting hammer to nail, to construct the homes.

However, Rosemarie's efforts aren't exclusive to veterans' causes; for five years, she led a charity fashion show at the Walt Whitman Mall to benefit the Dolan Center and has also used her gift of songwriting to help fight childhood bullying. Included in her volunteer efforts is her work with the Society of Italian Americans and Friends organization. She is a founding member of the Long Island chapter, which has held several charitable events to benefit local hospitals and other organizations in our communities.

"Rosemarie sets an outstanding example for all of us in Suffolk County, but she is especially a role model for women in our community," Legislator Stern said.

Working as the only female loan specialist, and also the only employee with a background in construction, she stands out not for her gender, but for her dedication and skills. To foster growth among other female business leaders, she has served as Press Relations Director of the Suffolk County Women's Business Enterprise Coalition (SCWEC).

"We in the 16th District are incredibly grateful to Rosemarie for all of the work she does to help our community and it is with great pride that I have the pleasure to see her recognized throughout all of Suffolk County as the 2015 "Suffolk County Woman of Distinction." Her unwavering dedication to our veterans and all those in need of support in our community is undeniably commendable and she is truly an example of what one person who cares about her neighbors can accomplish," Legislator Stern said.