



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

William Larkin

Senator Larkin Honors Local Veteran

WILLIAM J. LARKIN JR. June 14, 2011

| ISSUE: **VETERANS**

William G. Stratis Nominated to the Senate Veterans' Hall of Fame

Today, Senator Bill Larkin (R-C, Cornwall-on-Hudson) announced that he has nominated William G. Stratis to the Senate Veterans' Hall of Fame for his dedication and sacrifice to his country.

"Bill Stratis is a veteran's veteran," said Senator Bill Larkin. "His sacrifices on behalf of our country and the ordeals he has gone through in service to our country are an inspiration to all of us and I am honored to call him a friend."

During World War II, Mr. Stratis joined the Army in August of 1944 and saw combat in France, Belgium and Germany. During his two years of active duty service, he was wounded

twice and received the Purple Heart for his injuries. He was also awarded the Combat Infantry Badge and the Bronze Star for his actions. Mr. Stratis was captured by the enemy and held as a prisoner of war for over two months at Stalag 6a in Hemer, Germany.

Mr. Stratis became a member of the American Ex-Prisoner of War organization and studied to become a Certified National Service Officer. He has been volunteering five days a week at Castle Point Veteran's Hospital for many years helping to process claims for veterans and their spouses. Every year, over 4 million dollars goes to the families he has assisted through his volunteer work at Castle Point.

"It has been my privilege to nominate Bill Stratis to the New York State Senate Veterans' Hall of Fame," said Senator Larkin. "I can think of no one more deserving of this award and I look forward to working with Bill to assist our local veterans for many years to come."

The New York State Senate Veterans' Hall of Fame was created to honor and recognize outstanding veterans from the Empire State who have distinguished themselves both in military and civilian life. Their meritorious service to our nation deserves the special recognition that only a Hall of Fame can provide, as a fitting expression of our gratitude and admiration.