HONORING THOSE WHO GO THE EXTRA MILE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE: SENATOR RITCHIE'S WEEKLY COLUMN

PATTY RITCHIE   March 7, 2016

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When it comes to our region, there's a long list of what makes it special. For me though, one of the best things about Central and Northern New York is the people who go the extra mile to make our communities better.   As we continue to celebrate Women's History Month, we remember the women of the past—and the women of the present—who are making a difference.

In recent years, I've had the opportunity to recognize women from our region for all their contributions through my "Women of Distinction" program. This special initiative is aimed at honoring women's history in the Empire State by recognizing the achievements of trailblazer from today.

Through this program, dozens of local women have been honored for all they've done for our region. From teachers who dedicate their lives to educating young people and doctors who devote their lives to the wellness of others, to women who spend countless hours volunteering and others who lead the charge on causes important to their communities, these women represent a wide variety of accomplishments—but have one thing in common, they're making a difference.

Women living in the 48th Senate District, including Oswego, Jefferson and St. Lawrence Counties, are eligible to be recommended for the honor. Family, friends and coworkers are invited to make nominations, and can do so by downloading a form here or by calling (315) 782-3418 to have one sent to them. The deadline for nominations is March 28th, and all honorees will be invited to a local recognition ceremony being held on April 7th.

As Women's History Month continues, I'm looking forward to once again shining a light on all the good local women are doing today to improve our region, and make a difference in the lives of all who live here. For more information on the Women of Distinction program, and to learn more about past honorees, please visit my website.