



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Pamela Helming

Senator Helming Honors Heroic Propane Truck Driver

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NEWARK – Senator Pam Helming recently presented Mr. Patrick Rutherford, a propane truck driver with Superior Plus Propane in Newark, with the New York State Senate Liberty Medal and a New York State Senate Resolution. The Liberty Medal is awarded to individuals who have earned special commendation for exceptional, heroic, or humanitarian acts on behalf of their fellow New Yorkers. It is the highest honor that can be bestowed upon an individual by the New York State Senate. In November 2017, Mr. Rutherford was filling propane tanks in the back of a residence in the Town of Manchester while his truck was parked in front of the residence. A woman traveling on the road struck Mr. Rutherford's truck from behind, causing her vehicle to become fully engulfed in flames. Mr. Rutherford heard the crash happen and ran to the car. He pulled the woman out and across the street before the car exploded, saving the woman's life.

"Mr. Rutherford maintained his composure and demonstrated his true character and genuine compassion for the well-being of others through his brave actions. He is truly a hero who shows great courage and diligence not just in this moment but throughout his life. Mr. Rutherford is the kind of hero who goes quietly about his business every day in our community, giving plenty to those around him but never expecting anything in return. When someone demonstrates the true meaning of being a hero – as Mr. Rutherford did that day – they deserve commendation for their actions. That is why I consider it a privilege to honor Mr. Rutherford for his courageous and meritorious actions and present him with the Liberty Medal. Thank you to Mr. Robert Green and the employees of Superior Plus Propane for joining us to recognize Mr. Rutherford," Senator Helming said.