



Women of DISTINCTION

HONORING WOMEN IN NEW YORK

Leslie Church

Leslie Church has called Yates County home for 26 years, where she has dedicated her life to public service, volunteerism, and community development. With a diverse background in sales, real estate, and aviation, Ms. Church has used her skills and knowledge to make a significant impact on her community.

Her commitment to public service began in 2000 when she was appointed to the Town of Milo Planning Board, eventually leading to her election to the Town Board. In 2011, Ms. Church was elected as the first female Town of Milo Supervisor and, later that year, as a member of the Yates County Legislature. Her dedication and leadership have led to numerous historic firsts, including becoming the first woman to serve as the Vice Chair of the Yates County Legislature in 2020 and the first woman to be elected Chair of the Yates County Legislature in 2022.

In addition to her leadership roles, Ms. Church has been deeply involved in a variety of community initiatives. She serves as Chair of the Keuka Watershed Intermunicipal Cooperative and Vice Chair of the Keuka Outlet Compact. Both organizations are dedicated to preserving and protecting Keuka Lake.

As a member of the Yates County Legislature, Ms. Church contributed to the Youth Board, S2AY Rural Health Network, and Public Safety Committee, while also chairing the Human Services Committee. Her efforts have focused on improving services for the County's most vulnerable populations, advocating for better public health, social services, and community well-being.

Ms. Church's advocacy for the community extends beyond elected office. She has been an active Master Gardener in the Cornell Cooperative Extension Program and a Multiple Sclerosis Peer Advocate with Teva Neuroscience.

In 2011, she was recognized by the National Multiple Sclerosis Society as an Inspirational Woman on the Move for her dedication to raising awareness and finding a cure for multiple sclerosis.

Through her leadership and unwavering commitment, Ms. Church continues to shape Yates County into a safer, healthier, and more supportive place for all residents.

***Leslie Church was selected as a
2025 Women of Distinction honoree by Senator Thomas F. O'Mara***

