



# *Women of* DISTINCTION

HONORING WOMEN IN NEW YORK

*Randi Matousek*

Randi Matousek launched herself into an opportunity to support local military men and their families approximately 15 years ago.

The opening of the Gregory J. Harris Military Courtesy Room at Syracuse's Hancock International Airport, in July 2008, marked a local commitment to support soldiers, and Ms. Matousek placed herself at the forefront of the effort. Named after Gregory Harris, a local Marine who passed away in the line of duty, the Room is a reflection of Ms. Matousek's hospitality, citizenship, and genuine care for others.

A 72-year-old retired school psychologist from the Phoenix School District, Ms. Matousek has devoted numerous hours to helping military families. A member of the Military Courtesy Room's Board of Directors since its inception, she has fully committed herself to investing in the Room. She leads the effort to make the Room as special as it is, whether purchasing two large TVs for the veterans or traveling to Hamilton, New York each week to refill the coffee supply.

Currently, Ms. Matousek is Secretary-Treasurer, taking time to ensure the Room is stocked with food, drinks and other supplies. She oversees the Room as a volunteer, and because of her kindness and care for others, military families have a place to go and escape the hectic nature of the airport. Many believe that without Ms. Matousek's foresight and dedication, the Military Courtesy Room would not be the place of comfort for military members and their families that it is today.

Ms. Matousek has demonstrated an incredible devotion to serving her community. She has invested much of her time to its young residents, and is committed to making a difference in the lives of others.

She is an active volunteer with the Carol M. Baldwin Breast Cancer Research Fund of CNY. In partnership with the Baldwin Fund, Ms. Matousek conducts community outreach through local events, assists in raising money for research grants and lectures, and provides resources to cancer survivors. Each year, you can find her working the booth at the New York State Fair, raising awareness, educating Fair patrons, and providing emotional support to those in need. Her service to the local community is certainly noteworthy and commendable.

***Randi Matousek was selected as a  
2023 Women of Distinction honoree by Senator John W. Mannion***

