

# VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE PROVIDERS

Volunteer emergency services personnel provide critical services to our communities and save taxpayers billions of dollars per year statewide. I have often said our volunteer emergency workers are the backbone of our rural communities. As part of National Volunteer Week, many fire departments will open their doors for the annual **RECRUIT NY** recruitment-based open house event. Those interested in learning more should contact their local fire department to see if it is participating in this year's drive.

**WHAT: RECRUIT NY**

**WHERE: Your local fire department.**

**WHEN: April 23 and 24**

To find your local fire department, contact your local county's Emergency Management Office.

**CHEMUNG Co. .... 607-737-2096**

**SCHUYLER Co. .... 607-535-8200**

**SENECA Co. .... 315-539-1756**

**STEUBEN Co. .... 607-664-2910 ext. 2901**

**YATES Co. .... 315-536-3000**



**Assemblyman Palmesano with Sharon Murphy from Congressman Reed's office, Montour Falls Mayor John King and members of the Montour Falls Volunteer Fire Department at their annual banquet.**

A S S E M B L Y M A N

**PHIL  
PALMESANO**



**VOLUNTEERS WANTED  
WE NEED YOU!**

Dear Neighbor,

April 2016

April is National Volunteer Month. Giving the gift of your time, effort, energy, patience and talent to people who need it is something all of us can do to strengthen the common ties that bind us together.

Some of our bravest neighbors are our volunteer firefighters and emergency medical service workers. They put their lives on the line to save us from the most dangerous situations imaginable. Like I've always said, they are the backbone of our local rural communities. They save families, seniors, small businesses and manufacturers over \$3 billion annually in property taxes.

April 23 and 24 is Recruit NY weekend, a great opportunity to learn about the benefits of being a volunteer firefighter for your community. The inside of this brochure contains more information about this program.

There are many other ways to get involved. There are special programs that connect seniors to volunteer opportunities, and this mailing has more information about them. I am also encouraging young people to get involved through their local youth bureau. Contact information for those organizations is also provided.

This brochure also contains important information about how to volunteer to help out our brave heroes, veterans and active duty servicemen and women.

With April being National Volunteer Month, now is the perfect time to get involved. There are plenty of programs that could really use your help. By working together, we can build an even stronger community.

Sincerely,

Assemblyman Phil Palmesano

C O N T A C T

A S S E M B L Y M A N

**PHIL  
PALMESANO**

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(607) 776-9691



## PLEASE VOLUNTEER

### SENIORS:

If you are a senior citizen looking for a volunteer opportunity in your local community, please contact your local office of the aging or one of the other agencies below:

- CHEMUNG COUNTY OFFICE FOR THE AGING.....607-737-5520
- SCHUYLER COUNTY OFFICE FOR THE AGING.....607-535-7108
- SENECA COUNTY OFFICE FOR THE AGING.....315-539-1765
- STEBEN COUNTY OFFICE FOR THE AGING.....607-664-2298
- YATES COUNTY OFFICE FOR THE AGING.....315-536-5515
- AARP.....888-687-2277
- SENIOR CORPS .....1-800-942-2677
- ASSOCIATION OF MATURE AMERICAN CITIZENS...888-262-2006

### Helping Our Veterans & Military:

As we all know, our veterans and active duty personnel have sacrificed and given us so much. Volunteering to help these heroes is a small way to say thank you. If you want to volunteer to help veterans or active duty servicemen and women, contact your local county's veteran's affairs office or one of the other agencies listed below:

- CHEMUNG COUNTY VETERANS' SERVICE AGENCY .....607-737-5445
- SCHUYLER COUNTY VETERANS' SERVICE AGENCY .....607-535-2091
- SENECA COUNTY VETERANS' SERVICE AGENCY .....315-539-1651
- STEBEN COUNTY VETERANS' SERVICE AGENCY .....607-664-2527
- YATES COUNTY VETERANS' SERVICE AGENCY .....315-536-5196
- BATH VA.....607-664-4000
- CANANDAIGUA VA.....585-394-2000
- AMERICAN RED CROSS SERVICES TO ARMED FORCES .....585-241-4418
- NYS DIVISION OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS .....888-838-7697

### Young People:

Volunteerism is a great way for young people to give back to their communities. Volunteer opportunities can also be great for college applications and valuable career experience. For information on how young people can get involved in their community, contact the organization below nearest you:

- CHEMUNG COUNTY YOUTH BUREAU  
607-737-2907
- STEBEN COUNTY YOUTH BUREAU  
607-664-2199
- YATES COUNTY YOUTH BUREAU  
315-531-3451
- SENECA COUNTY YOUTH BUREAU  
315-539-1790
- SCHUYLER COUNTY YOUTH BUREAU  
607-535-6236



Assemblyman Phil Palmesano with Congressman Tom Reed and Sophie Kartzman, one of the Southern Tier and Finger Lakes Region's super youth volunteers. Sophie devotes countless hours each holiday season collecting thousands and thousands of holiday cards for our veterans and our brave servicemen and women serving overseas. She is an inspiration not just to young people, but to all of us across the region and exemplifies what the spirit of volunteerism is about.

### General Volunteer Opportunities:

Join your friends, family or co-workers and get engaged with your community! In our fast-paced society, it can be hard to find time to give back, but truly improving the quality of life for your friends and neighbors is one of the most powerful things you can do. The United Way offers great opportunities for businesses to set up team volunteering opportunities for their employees. It is great team building!

INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN SERVICES, INC.  
607-776-9467

FOOD LINK (SENECA/YATES)  
585-413-4097

UNITED WAY OF THE SOUTHERN TIER  
607-936-3753  
[msmith@uwst.org](mailto:msmith@uwst.org)

UNITED WAY OF SCHUYLER COUNTY  
607-546-8268  
[info@unitedwayofschuylercounty.org](mailto:info@unitedwayofschuylercounty.org)

CHEMUNG VOLUNTEER ACTION CORPS  
607-734-4161

FOOD BANK OF THE SOUTHERN TIER  
(CHEMUNG, SCHUYLER, STEUBEN)  
607-796-6061

UNITED WAY OF SENECA COUNTY  
315.539.1135  
[uwseneca@rochester.rr.com](mailto:uwseneca@rochester.rr.com)

UNITED WAY OF YATES COUNTY  
315-536-2448

To sort through volunteer opportunities near you that may fit your specific interests, log on to [www.volunteermatch.org](http://www.volunteermatch.org).