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7 October 2014

Do Not Use After 3 November 2014.

NAVY LEAGUE NAMES SUE PATERNO LT. MICHAEL P. MURPHY DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN

The Navy League of the United States (Central Pennsylvania council) will hold a benefit dinner for the Penn State Navy Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC) Student Scholarship Fund Nov. 12 at The Penn Stater Conference Center Hotel on Penn State's University Park campus, as part of Military Appreciation Week activities. At the dinner, the Navy League will honor Sue Paterno with the LT. Michael P. Murphy Distinguished Citizen Award. To purchase tickets, email events@NavyLeague-CentralPA.ORG.

A 1962 Penn State graduate, Paterno is being honored for her longstanding involvement with and philanthropic support of a number of projects, initiatives and events, both at Penn State and in the community. At Penn State, Paterno helped to establish the Liberal Arts Alumni Society and the Summer Institute for Academic Achievement, a program that offers underrepresented students additional preparation for college-level work. She serves as a member of the University's National Development Council, chaired the Libraries Advisory Board and was a volunteer for the Grand Destiny Campaign both for the College of the Liberal Arts and for the University Libraries. In addition, she was honorary co-chair of the Alumni Association's inaugural National Service Week, the largest community service effort ever undertaken by an alumni association. In 1995, the University recognized her service to Penn State by awarding her with the Lion's Paw. In 1996, she was named the Renaissance Woman of the Year and was named a Distinguished Alumna in 2004. She currently sits on the University's Leadership Gifts Committee, the National Council for Penn State Philanthropy, the Libraries Development Advisory Board and the Campaign Committees for both the Libraries and the College of the Liberal Arts. In addition, Paterno helped to fund the Capt. Ryan J. McCombie Military Undergraduate Scholarship Award for World Campus students. Paterno's commitment to public service extends beyond her alma mater. In 1989, she began working with the Pennsylvania Special Olympics, co-chairing the opening and closing ceremonies of the Summer Games. She has been a board member of the organization since 1991. In addition, Paterno has served as honorary chair of the United Way campaign and honorary co-chair for its Day of Caring since the inception of the event. Paterno is an active member of and Eucharistic minister for the Penn State Catholic community and helped the fundraising effort for the Pasquerilla Spiritual Center on the University Park campus.

Guest speaker for the event is Vice Adm. James W. Houck, U.S. Navy (retired), interim dean and distinguished scholar in residence of Penn State Law. He joined Penn State after retiring as the 41st Judge Advocate General of the U.S. Navy in 2012. As Judge Advocate General, Houck was the principal military legal counsel to the Secretary of the Navy and Chief of Naval Operations and led the 2,300 attorneys, enlisted legal staff, and civilian employees of the worldwide Navy Judge Advocate General's Corps.

The Lt. Michael P. Murphy Distinguished Citizen Award is given to a non-active-duty person whose character, distinguished military or civilian service and stature draw wholesome comparison to the qualities for which the Central Pennsylvania Council of the Navy League strives. A 1998 Penn State graduate, Murphy was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor on Oct. 22, 2007, for his actions in combat June 27-28, 2005, while leading a special reconnaissance mission deep behind enemy lines in the Hindu Kush of Afghanistan.

The Navy League of Central PA is dedicated to nonpartisan, enhanced public understanding and awareness of the missions and challenges facing today's Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and Merchant Marine, as well as advocating for the well-being of the men and women of each of the services.