Farmingville, NY - On May 8, Town of Brookhaven Councilwoman Connie Kepert attended the 35th Annual Youth Volunteer Awards. The event is held to honor volunteers within each Council Districts who have gone above and beyond to serve young people within their communities. This year the honorees from Council District 4 were Rosalee Adams, the Steel Drum Band of Bellport and Trisha Ewald.

Rosalee Adams is a Girl Scout Leader for the senior troop at the Youth Awareness Program in Coram. She shares her time with the girls, working on activities that will help them achieve their merit badges. Additionally, she volunteers with senior citizens and also shares her time at the local soup kitchen. Her wisdom and support over the last two decades have helped many of the youth in her community.

Trisha Ewald started the Blessings in a Backpack program in 2013. Her group collects donations to provide weekend meals to underprivileged children who are eligible for free or reduced lunch at school. Ms. Ewald oversees volunteers and is responsible for fundraising, shopping, packing the backpacks and distribution to provide lunches for over 100 children each weekend.

Steel Drum Band of the Boys and Girls Club of the Bellport Area was founded in 1999 as an alternative to drugs, violence and teen pregnancy. The Steel Drum Band has performed on Long Island and has traveled as far as Virginia Beach to entertain audiences. The members of the band are a dedicated group of young people who must maintain academic eligibility and practice twice a week to hone their craft.

"Congratulations and thank you to each of the remarkable individuals honored tonight," stated Councilwoman Kepert. "All of them have dedicated an enormous amount of time and energy to ensure that the young people in their communities have the resources and positive opportunities they need to grow into caring productive adults," said Councilwoman Kepert.