LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating the New Paltz, New York, Rescue Squad upon the occasion of celebrating its 40th Anniversary of community service in 2013

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those who give outstanding service to the people of the Empire State, and whose extraordinary achievements save the lives of their fellow citizens, should be recognized because their efforts so profoundly strengthen our shared commitment to family and community life; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and fully in accord with its long-standing traditions, it is the intent of this Legislative Body to congratulate the New Paltz, New York, Rescue Squad upon the occasion of celebrating its 40th Anniversary of community service in 2013; and

WHEREAS, Access to quality rescue and emergency care dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness, injury or life threatening emergencies; and

WHEREAS, Rescue squad members are an important part of the safety net of America's emergency responder system; they provide lifesaving and medical care to those in need, 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

WHEREAS, Established in 1973 by a group of dedicated citizens, the almost all volunteer New Paltz Rescue Squad has 80 members, three ambulances, two fly vehicles, and a 13,500 square-foot permanent home and facility; and

WHEREAS, The New Paltz Rescue Squad responded to more than 2,000 calls in 2012; it has averaged more than 200 additional calls each year; and

WHEREAS, Under the talented guidance and leadership of its current chief, Gina Bassinette, the New Paltz Rescue Squad has increased from a completely volunteer organization to include a half-dozen paid staff members so as to ensure that it has an advanced life support licensed paramedic on duty 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

WHEREAS, This auspicious occasion presents a unique opportunity for this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to the New Paltz Rescue Squad; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when organizations of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought of our attention, they should be recognized, applauded and honored by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate the New Paltz, New York, Rescue Squad upon the occasion of celebrating its 40th Anniversary of community service in 2013; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the New Paltz, New York, Rescue Squad.