

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Sandy and Bill Kassimir upon the occasion of their designation as the recipients of the Couple of the Year Award at the Jericho Jewish Center's 2013 Gala Evening of Tribute on June 3, 2013

WHEREAS, The quality and character of life in the Empire State is greatly enriched by the faithful and generous service of those who devote themselves to endeavors of family, faith and community; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend individuals of such magnanimous conduct and bearing who demonstrate a deep and continuing concern for others, and in so doing, inspire others to do the same; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern and fully in accord with its long-standing traditions, it is the intent of this Legislative Body to commend Sandy and Bill Kassimir upon the occasion of their designation as the recipients of the Couple of the Year Award at the Jericho Jewish Center's 2013 Gala Evening of Tribute to be held at the Center on June 3, 2013; and

WHEREAS, The Jericho Jewish Center is a true center of Jewish communal life, serving the religious, educational and social needs of the young and old of the Jericho community; and

WHEREAS, On the joyous occasion of its Gala Evening of Tribute the Jericho Jewish Center will proudly honor Sandy and Bill Kassimir with its Couple of the Year Award; and

WHEREAS, Sandy and Bill Kassimir have belonged to the Jericho Jewish Center since 1963 and have been members of the Sisterhood and Men's Club since the very beginning; they have been married for 56 years; and

WHEREAS, Their three wonderful children, Joanne, Owen, and Gary, along with their spouses Andy, Debbie and Sherri, have blessed Sandy and Bill with seven grandchildren Jaclyn, Valerie, Alexandra, Ethan, Alison, Vicki, and Marisa who always light up Sandy and Bill's lives and have given them great joy; and

WHEREAS, Bill and Sandy both grew up in the Bronx and met on a blind date in 1953; they married in 1956 just a couple of weeks after Bill was discharged from the Army where he served two years in Germany; and

WHEREAS, Bill, a retired pharmacist, graduated first in his class from Long Island University's Brooklyn College of Pharmacy; he is a former owner of Gilliar Pharmacies in Great Neck; he was a charter member of the Jericho Chapter of the Knights of Pythias and chaired its Summer Camp Committee for Underprivileged Children for many years; and

WHEREAS, It was through Lou Staub, Sandy's father, that Bill became active at the Jericho Jewish Center; both Fay and Lou Staub were staunch supporters of Jewish causes and inspired Bill to follow suit; Bill served as the Jericho Jewish Center's President from 1999-2001 and is a regular attendee at morning minyan; and

WHEREAS, Bill, Sandy, and her mother Fay were among the original founders of the Jericho Jewish Center Holocaust Memorial Garden, for which Bill continues to raise funds by selling plaques and personalized bricks for the beautiful garden's Walk of Remembrance; and

WHEREAS, Bill Kassimir joined the Jericho Jewish Center's theater group in the 1980's where he enjoyed many memorable times acting, singing and dancing in three musical productions; and

WHEREAS, Sandy Kassimir has been volunteering since her teenage years; she entertained at the Kingsbridge Veterans Hospital in the Bronx regularly playing the piano; and

WHEREAS, A Past President of the Jericho Chapter of Woman's American ORT, Sandy Kassimir has been honored as its Woman of the Year and, as an active member of the Jericho Jewish Center Sisterhood, she participates

at all functions, often times offering her expertise to a multitude of its programs; and

WHEREAS, Sandy's artistic skills are well known as well; her oil paintings, calligraphy, and sterling silver jewelry have all been exhibited on Long Island; her most recent passion is writing and she is happy to have published her 727 page memoir REMINISCING THROUGH THE YEARS, which was written to enlighten her children and grandchildren about her origin and life experiences; and

WHEREAS, In their spare time Sandy and Bill enjoy their garden and propagating plants; they specialize in tropical plants which bloom for them year round; traveling has also been an important and exciting part of their lives; cruising has taken them to many exotic places and they especially enjoy vacationing with their family; and

WHEREAS, The Jericho Jewish Center is proud to honor Sandy and Bill Kassimir as recipients of its 2013 Couple of the Year Award; and

WHEREAS, The Kassimirs have been active members of the Jericho Jewish Center for many years and are appreciative of being named its 2013 Couple of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the course of their service to the Jericho Jewish Center and their community, Sandy and Bill Kassimir have exhibited uncommon valor and wisdom; their involvement and leadership have been characterized by an impressive commitment, an unbridled enthusiasm, and an uncompromising standard of excellence in all their endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Sandy and Bill Kassimir are sincerely devoted members and leaders of the Jericho Jewish Center and their community as well as generous supporters of many worthy programs and causes at the Center and in the community; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is proud to extend its highest commendation to Sandy and Bill Kassimir for their dedication and commitment to their community and their heritage; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to pay tribute to Sandy and Bill Kassimir upon the occasion of their designation as the recipients of the Couple of the Year Award at the Jericho Jewish Center's 2013 Gala Evening of Tribute on June 3, 2013; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Sandy and Bill Kassimir.