

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the Little Neck-Douglaston Memorial Day Parade Dinner on May 15, 2015, and paying tribute to this year's honorees

WHEREAS, Each and every city, town, village and hamlet within its borders resonates with the rich and noble history of New York State and this nation; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend events which symbolize the historical, social and cultural development of this great State and embody the spirit of the principles upon which this nation was founded, and to applaud individuals who have dedicated their life's work in support and furtherance of those principles; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and fully in accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the Little Neck-Douglaston Memorial Day Parade Dinner, to be celebrated on Friday, May 15, 2015, at the Douglaston Golf Course in Douglaston, New York, and to pay tribute to this year's honorees; and

WHEREAS, New York State was the first state to formally recognize Memorial Day, then known as Decoration Day, as a holiday to honor our fallen veterans; and

WHEREAS, On Memorial Day, observed annually on the last Monday of the month of May, we honor those Americans who gave their lives in defense of their country, whether in the Civil War which divided our nation or in times of war since that time, and in times of peace, in police actions and minor skirmishes, in peacekeeping roles and in missions to foreign lands to uphold the cherished principles of liberty and democracy upon which our grand Republic was founded; and

WHEREAS, The Little Neck-Douglaston Memorial Day Parade is recognized as being the largest in the nation; held annually since 1927, it is a time for citizens to come together to honor veterans and fallen heroes, and for the community to come together and celebrate; and

WHEREAS, The 2015 Little Neck-Douglaston Memorial Day Parade honorees have tirelessly given of their time and energies to serve the best interests of their communities and are an asset beyond remuneration and cannot be sufficiently extolled; and

WHEREAS, This year's distinguished honorees include: Grand Marshal, Commissioner Loree Sutton, MD; Man of the Year, Carl Mattone; Woman of the Year, Lidia Bastianich; Community Service Award, Jerry Vilbig; Honorary Grand Marshal, John Rowan; and Parade Marshals, Richard Weinberg, Robert McGarry, Pat Gualtieri, Sebastian D'Agostino, Vincent McGowan and Joe Graham; and

WHEREAS, As we remember our deceased veterans, we also recall their bravery and deeds, that in the more than 200 years of our country's existence, have served to maintain our most precious freedoms; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the Little Neck Douglaston Memorial Day Parade Dinner on May 15, 2015, and to pay tribute to this year's honorees; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Little Neck-Douglaston Memorial Day Parade committee and the aforementioned honorees.