

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating Silver Spring Farm upon the occasion of its designation as a recipient of the Century Farm Award from the New York State Agricultural Society

WHEREAS, The agricultural industry is part of the foundation upon which our distinct American heritage is built; New York State and the entire United States are dependent on our agricultural industry for a variety of food products; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize the achievements of those family-owned farms which substantially contribute to the economic vitality of their communities and the entire Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate Silver Spring Farm upon the occasion of its designation as a recipient of the Century Farm Award from the New York State Agricultural Society; and

WHEREAS, The Century Farm program was established in 1937, and honors New York farms in continuous operation on the same land by the same family for over 100 years; and

WHEREAS, A family business for four generations, Silver Spring Farm was first purchased in 1914 by John and Katherine Luchsinger; ownership of the farm was then passed on to their son Fred and his wife Betty, and in 1986, grandson Chuck and his wife Sue took over the operation with the same philosophy of the generations preceding them; and

WHEREAS, From the original property of 92 acres, Silver Spring Farm has grown to include more than 200 acres of land growing corn, alfalfa, small grains and mixed hay to feed a 110 cow milking herd which is nationally recognized for its show-winning and high-selling Jerseys; and

WHEREAS, Each day, the Luchsingers wake up early to attend to such duties as tending to calves, milking cows, and ensuring the storage tanks are filled with fresh, delicious milk that meets the highest standards of quality of its local partner, Byrne Dairy; and

WHEREAS, Since the early 1920s, Silver Spring Farm has built a reputation for excellence in showing Jersey cows; during this time, it has produced the 1997 National Grand Champion and earned four Premier Breeder Awards at the All American Jersey Show; and

WHEREAS, In addition, this esteemed dairy farm has produced 13 Grand Champions and won 50 Premier Breeder Awards at the New York State Fair, with 39 consecutive Premier Breeder wins from 1961 to 1999; and

WHEREAS, Moreover, Silver Spring Farm has received Premier Breeder Awards at the Eastern States Exposition, Pennsylvania All-American Dairy Show and Royal Winter Fair; and

WHEREAS, In 1999, Silver Spring Farm diversified its agricultural presence by purchasing a farm market where they sell flowers, produce, pumpkins, and many other locally made goods; and

WHEREAS, Today, the Silver Spring Market provides its customers with friendly, attentive service and the finest quality products, including outstanding New York State cheeses, skillfully arranged planters and hanging baskets, and the farm's own exceptional grass fed beef raised on Onondaga Hill; and

WHEREAS, Chuck and Sue Luchsinger have been called upon to contribute their time and talents to countless civic and agricultural endeavors and have always given of themselves unstintingly; they both have served as co-Chairs of the 2009 National Annual Meetings on Jerseys, and are proud New York Farm Bureau members and past 4-H club advisors; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Chuck Luchsinger has been a member of the Board of Directors of the AJCA and National All-Jersey, Inc., and has served

as Director for the New York State Jersey Cattle Club since 1980; and

WHEREAS, Under the able guidance of owners Chuck and Sue Luchsinger, Silver Spring Farm and Market will continue its distinguished tradition of showing award winning Jerseys, offering the best possible agricultural products, and providing great service to its community for many years to come; and

WHEREAS, It is with great pleasure that this Legislative Body acknowledges the success of this exceptional small business and its contributions to the local and State economies, fully confident that it will continue to enjoy the sparkling successes it has experienced thus far; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when long-standing family farms of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate Silver Spring Farm upon the occasion of its designation as a recipient of the Century Farm Award from the New York State Agricultural Society; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Chuck and Sue Luchsinger, Owners, Silver Spring Farm.