

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Edith Beatty upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition by Meals on Wheels for Western New York, after more than 40 years of distinguished volunteer service to the community

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to call attention to the dedicated efforts of those individuals from across the State of New York who volunteer their time and energies in service to the community; and

WHEREAS, Volunteerism is an essential element of all societies; it provides a way in which the human values of community, caring and serving can be sustained and strengthened; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Edith Beatty upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition by Meals on Wheels for Western New York, after more than 40 years of distinguished volunteer service to the community; and

WHEREAS, This auspicious occasion will be celebrated at the Meals on Wheels for Western New York's Annual Volunteer Recognition Dinner as a gesture of appreciation for selfless and giving individuals who have helped to carry out its mission for 20, 25, 30, and 35 years; this year, Edith Beatty, the longest-serving volunteer in the history of the agency, will be honored with more than 40 years of volunteer service; and

WHEREAS, Meals on Wheels for Western New York's mission seeks to enrich lives and to promote independent healthy living by offering nutritious food and a friendly visit; and

WHEREAS, Since 1969, Meals on Wheels for Western New York has been faithfully serving its community; currently, this vital organization serves and produces more than a million meals a year; and

WHEREAS, Edith Beatty began her volunteer service with the Hamburg Meals on Wheels in the 1970s in support of her sister-in-law, Polly Mitchell, who spearheaded the formation of a local Meals on Wheels group; and

WHEREAS, Every Wednesday, Edith Beatty delivered meals; her friends and family quickly learned not to ask her to lunch on Wednesdays because that was her "Meals Day"; and

WHEREAS, The ability to give back through Meals on Wheels was something that nourished Edith Beatty's caring nature and the values she and her husband, Spen Beatty, instilled in their family which was to do what they could for others in need; and

WHEREAS, Edith Beatty's enjoyment and passion for the program was contagious, and after Spen retired, he joined her in delivering meals every week until he passed away in 1989; she continued to volunteer throughout the years, and her devotion to Meals on Wheels and the clients was unwavering; and

WHEREAS, For Edith Beatty, volunteering with Meals on Wheels started and continued as a family affair; in 2006, her son, Jim Beatty, and daughter, Louise Zittel, started to volunteer for Meals on Wheels not only to make sure that their mother could continue this weekly tradition of giving as she got older, but also to take part in giving back themselves when their schedules opened up a bit in retirement; and

WHEREAS, In addition to her longstanding volunteer career with Meals on Wheels and her commitment to her family, Edith Beatty worked as a substitute teacher in the Hamburg, Frontier and Springville School Districts; and

WHEREAS, Recently, Edith Beatty retired from her volunteer career at Meals on Wheels for Western New York, but not before reaching the impressive milestone of serving clients for more than 40 years; she

fondly remembers her days at Meals on Wheels and enjoyed the weekly interactions with each client and the other volunteers; and

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

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Edith Beatty upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition by Meals on Wheels for Western New York, after more than 40 years of distinguished volunteer service to the community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Edith Beatty.