

BY: Senator LARKIN

HONORING Lucia DeNatale upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Outstanding Person of the Year Award by Middlehope Veterinary Hospital on April 8, 2018

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize those individuals of preeminent character whose lives exemplify the highest ideals of humanity and whose lifework and civic endeavor serve to enhance the quality of life in their communities and the great State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Lucia DeNatale upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Outstanding Person of the Year Award by Middlehope Veterinary Hospital celebrated at a Luncheon held in her honor on Sunday, April 8, 2018, at the Ship Lantern Inn in Milton, New York; and

WHEREAS, Lucia DeNatale is receiving this inaugural award for her steadfast and unremitting commitment to saving and finding foster homes for abandoned, abused and relinquished animals from both South and North Carolina, where there are a large number of kill shelters; and

WHEREAS, Each year in the United States, six to eight million dogs and cats are placed in shelters, and three to four million of them are euthanized because they are unable to be placed in homes; and

WHEREAS, In 2014, Lucia DeNatale founded Take Me Home Pet Rescue; since then, this valuable organization has placed more than 2,000 dogs in loving homes in the Hudson Valley, Connecticut, Pennsylvania and New Jersey; through her tireless efforts, she has helped eliminate the unnecessary deaths of numerous adoptable animals while enhancing the lives of people as well; and

WHEREAS, For the last four years, Lucia DeNatale has travelled down south and negotiated with high kill shelters to bring their animals up north, whether it be in a rented van or through the compassion of a network of truckers, the dogs arrive in southern Ulster county ready to find kindness and a safe haven with a new owner; and

WHEREAS, Many of the dogs face a variety of medical issues such as an inability to walk, respiratory infections, pneumonia, viruses and fevers; fortunately, Veterinarian Richard Solomons graciously treats these vulnerable animals at cost or free of charge; and

WHEREAS, Once the dogs are found to be in good health, Take Me Home Pet Rescue finds them a warm and comfortable forever home that have been carefully screened and has passed a rigorous background check; and

WHEREAS, The success of Take Me Home Pet Rescue is in direct

correlation to the efforts of its staff, whose involvement is, and always has been, characterized by an impressive commitment, an unbridled enthusiasm, and an uncompromising standard of excellence in all endeavors on behalf of the institution and the community it serves; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the occurrence of such a compassionate blending of strength, intellect and commitment as that demonstrated by Lucia DeNatale over many years of sacrifice and dedication to the dogs in high kill shelters in the Carolinas; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the well-being and vitality of their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to excellence certainly have earned the recognition and applause of all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Lucia DeNatale upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Outstanding Person of the Year Award by Middlehope Veterinary Hospital on April 8, 2018; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Lucia DeNatale.