

BY: Senator MAYER

COMMEMORATING the 100th Anniversary of the New
Rochelle Rotary Club

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to those organizations of high purpose and worthy accomplishment whose endeavors have faithfully served the welfare of the citizens of the 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 commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the New Rochelle Rotary Club; and

WHEREAS, The world's first service club, Rotary International was founded on February 23, 1905, when Paul Harris, a native of Vermont, found himself a stranger in the city of Chicago; he conceived the idea of inviting three men of different vocations to join him weekly for fellowship and to discuss each other's problems and business; and

WHEREAS, Today, Rotary International has grown into an organization including over 1.2 million members in approximately 29,000 clubs across 163 countries; each club is made up of business and professional leaders who are dedicated to humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help to build peace and goodwill throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, Just 14 years after Rotary International was founded, the New Rochelle club formed on April 9, 1919, with members meeting at the Hotel Osborn on Franklin Avenue; and

WHEREAS, The New Rochelle Rotary Club received its charter on October 8, 1919, at the Wykagyl Country Club which had been upgraded from the original Disbrow farmhouse; the founders were among those who had been successful in selling Liberty Bonds to fund the war effort during World War I; and

WHEREAS, Over the years, the New Rochelle Rotary Club helped found the first Rotary Club in Bermuda in 1920, the Larchmont Club in 1929, and the Pelham Club in 1946; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, the New Rochelle Rotary Club has contributed to the larger aims of Rotary International through members' dues, donations and fundraising events; the successful Polio Plus campaign to eradicate polio is nearing completion with the number of cases dropping from 350,000 in 1985, to only 29 in 2018; and

WHEREAS, The New Rochelle Rotary Club has been instrumental in the evolution of the City and the creation of important community organizations including the local Chamber of Commerce and Boys and Girls Club; and

WHEREAS, In addition, this vital organization supports numerous humanitarian programs such as Hope Community Services meals, coat drives, and holiday events for people in need within the local community, as well as The Cookstove Project in Uganda and Nepal; and

WHEREAS, The success of the New Rochelle Rotary Club is in direct correlation to the efforts of its dedicated members, 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 organization and the community it serves; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body that when individuals and organizations 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 commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the New Rochelle Rotary Club; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the New Rochelle Rotary Club.