

BY: Senator MAYER

COMMEMORATING the 40th Anniversary of the Isaac and Naomi Kaplan Family Regional Neonatal Intensive Care Unit of Maria Fareri Children's Hospital at Westchester Medical Center

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize those institutions which have faithfully served the health needs of the community and its citizens with diligence and compassionate commitment; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 40th Anniversary of the Isaac and Naomi Kaplan Family Regional Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) of Maria Fareri Children's Hospital at Westchester Medical Center (WMC), to be celebrated at its Wines of the World event on Thursday, April 28, 2022, at Westchester Country Club; and

WHEREAS, Proceeds from this auspicious event will help care for the region's sickest newborn children at Maria Fareri Children's Hospital, a member of the WMCHealth Network and located in Valhalla, New York; and

WHEREAS, Each year, the Isaac and Naomi Kaplan Family Regional NICU admits more than 700 critically ill newborns, many born far before maturity and at dangerously low birth weights; and

WHEREAS, In addition to serving a catchment area of approximately 23,000 annual births, all six Level II and three Level III NICU programs in its region refer their patients to Maria Fareri Children's Hospital when Level IV care is required; and

WHEREAS, Under the able leadership of Dr. Edmund F. La Gamma, the NICU staff works with families around the clock to provide constant monitoring and nurturing of these tiny babies, and teaching parents how to care for their tender infants; and

WHEREAS, This vital unit currently operates at or above capacity with an average daily census of 51 neonates, each staying for an average of 30 days; and

WHEREAS, For 40 years, the Isaac and Naomi Kaplan Family Regional Neonatal Intensive Care Unit has remained true to its mission of assisting families of hospitalized children with supportive services tailored to meet individual families' needs; and

WHEREAS, The success of the Isaac and Naomi Kaplan Family Regional Neonatal Intensive Care Unit is in direct correlation to the efforts of its Director, Dr. Edmond F. La Gamma, as well as its dedicated doctors, nurses, support staff and volunteers, 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, Venerable and trustworthy institutions, tending to the needs of the community and its citizenry, represent the threads from which the fabric of society is woven; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is proud to recognize the benevolent good works of health care institutions, sharing the pride of its history and accomplishments, and anticipating its future of continued growth in quality and personalized care; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 40th Anniversary of the Isaac and Naomi Kaplan Family Regional Neonatal Intensive Care Unit of Maria Fareri Children's Hospital at Westchester Medical Center; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Isaac and Naomi Kaplan Family Regional Neonatal Intensive Care Unit of Maria Fareri Children's Hospital at Westchester Medical Center.