

Senate Resolution No. 1065

BY: Senator SERINO

COMMENDING the Kuttruf Family upon the occasion of their designation as recipient of a Liberty Medal, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the New York State Senate

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend the caring concern and heroic acts of individuals who take prompt and appropriate action in emergency situations, nobly risking their own lives in an effort to preserve the life of another; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend the Kuttruf Family upon the occasion of their designation as recipient of a Liberty Medal, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the New York State Senate; and

WHEREAS, The New York State Senate Liberty Medal was established by Resolution and is awarded to individuals who have merited special commendation for exceptional, heroic, or humanitarian acts on behalf of their fellow New Yorkers; and

WHEREAS, Around 7 p.m. on Wednesday, January 23, 2019, a man was riding his ATV across frozen Lake Oscawana in Putnam Valley, New York, when the ice suddenly gave way, plunging him into the frigid water; and

WHEREAS, Fortunately, his neighbors, Jennifer and Bruce Kuttruf and their 14 year-old son Zachary heard the victim's scream of terror and saw his head bobbing in the water; after calling 911, the Kuttrufs ran outside, and Zachary flagged down the responding Deputy Jonathan Bradley, while Jennifer and Bruce attempted to reach the man with a garden hose; and

WHEREAS, Realizing the garden hose was not long enough, Jennifer Kuttruf then found a 50-foot extension cord; the family, along with Deputy Bradley, were able to successfully pull the drowning victim to safety; and

WHEREAS, As a result of the courageous and timely actions of Bruce, Jennifer and Zachary Kuttruf, and Deputy Jonathan Bradley, their neighbor was saved from certain death; and

WHEREAS, Zachary Kuttruf will forever be grateful for his Boy Scout training and will always remain true to its code, "to always be prepared, no excuses"; and

WHEREAS, The Kuttruf Family, in their spontaneous and heroic act, has so aptly demonstrated their character and compassion for the welfare of others, personifying, by virtue of their action, the collective concern of ordinary citizens across the community of New York State who voluntarily respond without thought of danger or reward when others are

in need of help; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the Kuttruf Family upon the occasion of their designation as recipient of a Liberty Medal, the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the New York State Senate; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Kuttruf Family.