

BY: Senator JACOBS

COMMENDING the Kenmore Lions Club upon the occasion of celebrating its 90th Anniversary on June 4, 2019

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to those fraternal 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 commend the Kenmore Lions Club upon the occasion of its 90th Anniversary to be celebrated at an event on Tuesday, June 4, 2019; and

WHEREAS, The Kenmore Lions Club is part of Lions Clubs International, one of the largest service organizations in the world, and is deeply committed to meeting the challenges of public service; currently, there are approximately 46,000 clubs in more than 200 countries and geographic areas around the world; and

WHEREAS, The goal of the Kenmore Lions Club is to empower volunteers to serve their communities, meet humanitarian needs, encourage peace and promote international understanding; and

WHEREAS, Lions are recognized worldwide for their service to the blind and visually-impaired; this service began when Helen Keller challenged the Lions to become her "knights of the blind in the crusade against darkness" during the Lions' 1925 International Convention; and

WHEREAS, On May 8, 1929, the Lions Club of Kenmore, sponsored by the Buffalo Host Lions Club, joined The International Lions Clubs with 32 Charter Members to serve the residents of Kenmore and the Town of Tonawanda, New York; and

WHEREAS, The Kenmore Lions Club consists of 46 dedicated men and women who volunteer their time to perform a variety of community service projects including Adopt a Highway, the Kenmore-Tonawanda Hole-In-One Golf Fundraiser, Leo-Venture Crew 2001, and Peace Poster and Essay Contests for youth ages 10-13; and

WHEREAS, In addition, the Kenmore Lions Club has sponsored an overseas Army Platoon, hosts picnics, Christmas parties, and Thanksgiving community dinners for the visually-impaired; collects and recycles used eye glasses and hearing aids; offers free eyeglasses, hearing aids and related exams, and vision screening for children; and provides scholarships for high school students; and

WHEREAS, This vital organization also supports numerous worthy organizations such as the Dr. Ann Stadelmaier Hearing Aid Fund, Buffalo League of Sightless Bowlers, Camp Badger, Canine Helpers for the

Handicapped, Excalibur Leisure Skills Center, Habitat for Humanity, Lions Clubs International Foundation and Projects, Niagara Frontier Radio Reading, Ross Eye Institute, SABAH, The Olmstead Center for Sight, Therapeutic Riding Programs, UNYTS, and Vision Beyond Sight Foundation, as well as Wings Flights of Hope; and

WHEREAS, Over its distinguished 90 year history, the Kenmore Lions Club has truly strived to live up to its motto "We Serve"; and

WHEREAS, The success of the Kenmore Lions Club is in direct correlation to the efforts of its 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 sense 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 commend the Kenmore Lions Club upon the occasion of celebrating its 90th Anniversary, and to honor its members, past and present, who have labored so conscientiously to secure and improve the quality of life in the community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Kenmore Lions Club.