

**BY:** Senator KAPLAN

**CONGRATULATING** Sam Lukas upon the occasion of celebrating his 103rd Birthday

**WHEREAS,** It is the custom of this Legislative Body to commemorate and recognize certain milestones celebrated by citizens of this great Empire State; and

**WHEREAS,** Senior citizens bring a wealth of experience and knowledge to the increasingly active roles they play in today's society; their past contributions and future participation are a vital part of, and valuable asset to, the fabric of community life and activity; and

**WHEREAS,** Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate Sam Lukas upon the occasion of his 103rd Birthday; and

**WHEREAS,** On Saturday, May 29, 2021, family, friends and well-wishers paid tribute to Sam Lukas' long life with a drive-by parade; several veteran's organization, the Westbury Fire Department, Nassau County police and the Rolling Thunder motorcycle group flashed lights and honked horns as they drove past his Westbury home; and

**WHEREAS,** Furthermore, Sam Lukas was later presented with a citation from the Nassau County Clerks office in recognition of his war service, good citizenry, and dedication to his friends, family and country; and

**WHEREAS,** Born on May 30, 1918, Sam Lukas was one of five children who grew up in the Maspeth section of Queens, New York; and

**WHEREAS,** Upon his completion of high school, Sam Lukas proudly served his country as a member of the United States Army during World War II, becoming a sergeant in the 828th Signal Pigeon Replacement Company; his unit trained carrier pigeons to send valuable communications and messages to U.S. troops during the war; and

**WHEREAS,** After more than a century of life, Sam Lukas has seen everything from the Great Depression, to wars in Korea and Vietnam, to the construction of the Chrysler Building; and

**WHEREAS,** A truly kind soul, hard worker and devoted family man, Sam Lukas never holds a grudge and looks at life optimistically, no matter the situation; and

**WHEREAS,** In addition to his wife, the late Marie, with him throughout have been his two children, as well as his loving grandson, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; and

**WHEREAS,** This distinguished man has experienced the incredible joys and sorrows characteristic of and reserved for those with the stamina

and courage to savor a full life; and

**WHEREAS,** Sam Lukas has enriched the lives of those around him through his joyous and sincere love for others and through the quiescent charm and wisdom which comes only from a fullness of years; and

**WHEREAS,** It is the intent of this Legislative Body to publicly recognize those who have reached such a remarkable age and who have witnessed and celebrated the innovations, cultural developments and awesome achievements of this country during the last century, while themselves contributing to the growth and excellence of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate Sam Lukas upon the occasion of celebrating his 103rd Birthday; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Sam Lukas.