

2009-J6016

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating Jen Westphal upon the occasion of receiving the distinguished Gold Award, the most prestigious of Scouting honors

WHEREAS, America has achieved her greatest heights of glory through the dedication, determination and tireless efforts of the outstanding citizens of this Nation; and

WHEREAS, It is only with the continued diligence and devotion of our youth, tomorrow's leaders, that America will maintain her glory; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate Jen Westphal, a member of Troop 40533, upon the occasion of receiving the distinguished Gold Award, the most prestigious of Scouting honors; and

WHEREAS, The Girl Scouts of America and its members are dedicated to the development of character and leadership in the youth of this Nation; and

WHEREAS, Founded in 1912 in Savannah, Georgia, by Juliette Gordon Low, Girl Scouts began with a membership of only 18 girls; by 1915, the Girl Scouts was a national organization, incorporating and holding annual conventions; and

WHEREAS, The first Girl Scout council was chartered in 1917 in Toledo, Ohio; by 1929, membership in the Girl Scouts surpassed 200,000; there are now councils throughout the United States and abroad with over 3.7 million members; and

WHEREAS, Since 1925, the USA Girl Scouts Overseas program has been providing the Girl Scout experience for American girls living outside the United States; currently, the USAGSO serves over 16,000 girls in more than 81 countries; in 1928, the Girl Scouts of the USA was a founding member of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts; the World Association is 144 members strong, and provides opportunities for

international friendships and understanding; and

WHEREAS, Since 1980, Senior Girl Scouts have capped their years of achievement in Girl Scouting with the Girl Scout Gold Award; this award is presented to Scouts who exemplify the traditional values and four program goals of the Girl Scouts of America, which are to develop self potential, relate to others, develop values and contribute to society; and

WHEREAS, In order to earn the Girl Scout Gold Award, a girl must fulfill five requirements; chief among them is the design and completion of a Gold Award Project; this project must build upon the interests of the girl, provide a service to the community, and be of lasting benefit; and

WHEREAS, Jen Westphal's project was entitled A Taste of Home; and

WHEREAS, This outstanding young woman has been involved in Scouting for years, has lived up to Scouting's ideals and has attained all of the necessary achievements; and

WHEREAS, Jen Westphal is a credit to her family, her school, her community, her State and her Nation, and no doubt her future will be filled with accomplishments of equal importance; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations, in recognition of the significance of this meritorious achievement, to congratulate and honor Jen Westphal upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Girl Scout Gold Award; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Jen Westphal, P.O. Box 174, Hillburn, New York 10931.