

## 2011-K1340

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 20th Anniversary of the Friends of Green Chimneys' "Birds of Prey Day," to be celebrated on June 3, 2012

WHEREAS, Organizations which serve the interests of the people of this Empire State merit the commendation of this Legislative Body; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to commemorate the 20th Annual Friends of Green Chimneys' "Birds of Prey Day," entitled "With Wings & A Prayer," offered for all those years in conjunction with the New York State Falconry Association, to be held at Green Chimneys in Brewster, New York, on Sunday, June 3, 2012; this year, programs will include farm tours, tractor rides, wildlife demonstrations, falconers, and nearly 100 birds of prey; and

WHEREAS, Green Chimneys is a nonprofit organization serving children with special needs and is dedicated to developing harmonious relationships between children, animals, nature and the environment through an array of mental health, educational, recreational and vocational services; the Farm and Wildlife Center is located on the grounds of Green Chimneys; and

WHEREAS, Green Chimneys Farm and Wildlife Conservation Center provides wildlife rehabilitation services primarily dedicated to caring for injured, orphaned and distressed raptors, and is home to over 300 animals and 40 permanently disabled birds of prey, including an American Bald Eagle with a permanently injured wing and an Andean Condor; and

WHEREAS, Since its inception, the Green Chimneys Farm and Wildlife Conservation Center has worked closely with New York falconers in providing such rehabilitative services and creating educational opportunities for residents, their families and the public to learn about animals and the environmental resources of this State; and

WHEREAS, The success of these rehabilitative and educational efforts

provides a positive example of Green Chimneys' foundational philosophy and core values of mutual care, respect and dignity between people, animals and the environment; and

WHEREAS, A variety of diverse species of animals such as horses, sheep, donkeys, ponies, pigs, rabbits, goats, poultry, waterfowl and emu also live at the farm; rare breeds such as Nigerian Dwarf goats, Tunis, Cotswold and Jacob sheep, Ayrshire and Dexter cows, and Fjord draft horses are unique attractions at the farm; and

WHEREAS, The Farm and Wildlife Conservation Center is an active member of the American Livestock Breeds Conservancy (ALBC) and holds a "C" license as an exhibitor of animals with the United States Department of Agriculture; and

WHEREAS, This event is also a tribute to the environment and a major fundraiser for Green Chimneys; and

WHEREAS, In so effectively carrying out its mission, Green Chimneys Farm and Wildlife Conservation Center has demonstrated the value of helping children with special needs by introducing nature and animals into their lives; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the Friends of Green Chimneys upon the occasion of the 20th Anniversary celebration of "Birds of Prey Day"; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Samuel B. Ross, Jr., Managing Director, The Friends of Green Chimneys.