

2013-J4058

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Catherine Toolan Gearity upon the occasion of her designation as Deputy Grand Marshal of the Annual Bay Ridge St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 23, 2014

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to those distinguished citizens of the State of New York who devote their lifework and civic endeavor in service to their community, adding to the character and quality of life for all citizens; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Catherine Toolan Gearity upon the occasion of her designation as Deputy Grand Marshal of the Annual Bay Ridge St. Patrick's Day Parade on Sunday, March 23, 2014; and

WHEREAS, In 1956, Catherine Toolan Gearity, affectionately known as Cathie, was born to Jeanne and John Toolan on a military base in Cherry Point, North Carolina where her father was stationed during his service in the United States Marine Corps; and

WHEREAS, At the age of two, Cathie Toolan Gearity moved to Dyker Heights, Brooklyn where she and her five siblings attended St. Ephrem School and Fort Hamilton High School in Bay Ridge; she graduated from St. Vincent's Hospital School of Nursing in 1977; and

WHEREAS, Cathie Toolan Gearity began her lifelong illustrious career in nursing as a medical-surgical nurse on the gastric unit of Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, and attended Marymount Manhattan College to complete education requirements towards her BSN; and

WHEREAS, Upon the completion of her Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree, Cathie Toolan Gearity became a visiting nurse for Catholic Home Care, and in 2011, she began her new role as a home hospice nurse for Calvary Hospital; and

WHEREAS, While remaining steadfast to her nursing vocation, Cathie Toolan Gearity took on PTA President roles at PS 185 and Genesis at Xaverian where her children attended school; she was also active in the parent boards at Regis, Xavier and Bishop Kearney High Schools; and WHEREAS, Cathie Toolan Gearity has been a CCD teacher at Our Lady of Angels Parish for 18 years; in addition, she brings the Eucharist to individuals who are homebound; and

WHEREAS, With a strong love and respect for those who serve in the military, Cathie Toolan Gearity is involved in the Semper Fi Fund; in November of 2013, she organized the third Annual Semper Fi Fund Bay Ridge 5k Run, which raised significant funds to help support injured Marines; and

WHEREAS, Cathie Toolan Gearity is a fitting choice for Deputy Grand Marshal of the Bay Ridge St. Patrick's Day Parade, for she embodies the spirit and the cherished ideals and values of this great State and Nation; and

WHEREAS, St. Patrick's Day is a time for people of all nationalities and generations to assemble and celebrate the rich culture and heritage of the Irish people throughout these United States; and

WHEREAS, A St. Patrick's Day Parade reflects and records the ongoing history of the United States and Ireland, and highlights the many contributions and historical accomplishments of the Irish community in this diverse land; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals 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 honor Catherine Toolan Gearity upon the occasion of her designation as Deputy Grand Marshal of the Annual Bay Ridge St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 23, 2014; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Catherine Toolan Gearity.