

2013-K1078

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Virginia Ireland upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the 2014 First Lady of the Year Award by Preceptor Beta Kappa Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi

WHEREAS, Individuals who give of their time and energies and serve the best interests of their communities are an asset beyond remuneration and cannot be sufficiently extolled; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to acknowledge outstanding individuals whose professional lives, personal endeavors, and community service are an example and inspiration to their colleagues, friends, family, and community; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Virginia Ireland upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the 2014 First Lady of the Year Award by Preceptor Beta Kappa Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi, to be celebrated at a luncheon on Saturday, May 17, 2014, at the Sacred Heart Parish of Sidney, New York; and

WHEREAS, Since 1975, this auspicious award has been presented to very special women in our local communities by recognizing their distinguished and selfless service to the communities in which they live; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Ireland's kind heart and compassion have helped her to touch the lives of countless people in her community; and

WHEREAS, This hardworking woman is one of the driving forces behind the success of Operation Merry Christmas, taking over from its founder in 1991; this worthy non-profit organization based in Sidney provides new toys, clothing, and school supplies to local children in need during the Christmas holidays; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Ireland serves as coordinator for Operation Merry Christmas where she works with local businesses, churches, organiza-

tions, and individuals to make sure these needs are met; thousands of toys, clothing, and other items are donated, which need to be organized to assure they get to their intended families before Christmas; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Ireland has been instrumental in the local community in other capacities including working with her Merry Christmas network to help members of her community who may be the victims of tragedy such as a fire, flood, or loss of a job; she always has a supply of toys, clothing, and household goods available should the need arise; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, Virginia Ireland has worked with many local organizations such as the Red Cross, Twin Rivers Sertoma, Sidney Emergency Squad, Tri-Town Theatre, Out of the Woodwork Players, and the Sidney Alumni FFA; she also provides home respite care for local shut-ins when their caretakers need a break; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Virginia Ireland runs a pet boarding kennel out of her home in Bainbridge, New York; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of her professional and community service, a period of constructive involvement, Virginia Ireland has stood constant in dignity, good grace, and humor, earning the respect and admiration of her colleagues, family and friends; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by individuals for the benefit of others which Virginia Ireland has displayed throughout her life; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Virginia Ireland upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the 2014 First Lady of the Year Award by Preceptor Beta Kappa Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Virginia Ireland.