

2015-J4237

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Victoria Schneps-Yunis upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Achievers Award by the Long Island Center for Business & Professional Women

WHEREAS, It is incumbent upon the people of the State of New York to recognize and acknowledge those within our midst who have made significant contributions to the quality of life therein; and

WHEREAS, From time to time this Legislative Body takes note of certain extraordinary individuals it wishes to recognize for their valued contributions to the success and progress of society and publicly acknowledge their endeavors which have enhanced the basic humanity among us all; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Victoria Schneps-Yunis upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Achievers Award by the Long Island Center for Business & Professional Women, to be celebrated at its 37th Annual Awards Gala on Wednesday, May 4, 2016, at the Fox Hollow, Woodbury, New York; and

WHEREAS, The Long Island Center for Business & Professional Women will honor Victoria Schneps-Yunis with this auspicious award in recognition of her extraordinary achievements and significant contributions in her field, opening doors for others to foster a rise in business, the professions, and the community-at-large; and

WHEREAS, As founder in 1985 of Schneps Communications, Victoria Schneps-Yunis is Publisher and CEO of groups of weekly community newspapers, websites, events, and social media in New York City; the group includes the QUEENS COURIER, BROOKLYN HOME REPORTER, BROOKLYN SPECTATOR, the RIDGEWOOD TIMES, and EL CORREO, a Spanish language newspaper; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, Schneps Communications includes such magazines as QUEENS BUSINESS, the LONG ISLAND CITY COURIER, NORTH SHORE TOWERS

COURIER, LEHAVRE COURIER, LEFRAK CITY COURIER, CRYDER POINT COURIER, ASPIRE, and BORO MAGAZINE; and

WHEREAS, Inspired by the power of the press during her advocacy work on behalf of her daughter Lara, who was brain damaged at birth, Victoria Schneps-Yunis pursued her dream of being in the news business; and

WHEREAS, Victoria Schneps-Yunis began the QUEENS COURIER with a 250 dollar investment in her Bayside living room; since that time, Schneps Communications has grown to publish more than 19 newspapers and magazines; and

WHEREAS, The QUEENS COURIER was chosen as one of the Top 10 Newspapers in New York State and its website was ranked No. 1 by the New York State Press Association; and

WHEREAS, Additionally, in 1971, Victoria Schneps-Yunis founded Life's WORC, a non-profit organization which has grown to serve more than 1,000 individuals with developmental disabilities and autism; this vital organization operates 40 group homes and 19 day programs, including a Family Center for Autism; and

WHEREAS, The recipient of countless awards and accolades for her steadfast and unwavering community service, Victoria Schneps-Yunis was chosen to carry the Olympic Torch during the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta; she was also named as Business Person of the Year by the Queens Chamber of Commerce, and has served as the Grand Marshal of the Queens Hispanic Parade; and

WHEREAS, Active within her community, Victoria Schneps-Yunis serves on the boards of the Queens Museum of Art, Life's WORC, South Boys and Girls Club, Jamaica Center for Arts and Learning and Flushing Bank; and

WHEREAS, Victoria Schneps-Yunis earned her Bachelor of Science degree from New York University and her Master of Science degree from Brooklyn

College; recently widowed, she is the proud mother of three surviving children, four step-children and 14 grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individ-

ual for the benefit of others which Victoria Schneps-Yunis has displayed throughout her life; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the well-being and vitality of their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to excellence certainly have earned the recognition and applause of all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Victoria Schneps-Yunis upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Achievers Award by the Long Island Center for Business & Professional Women; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Victoria Schneps-Yunis.