

## 2015-K1183

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating Matson Meadow Farm upon the occasion of its designation as recipient of the Century Farm Award from the New York State Agricultural Society

WHEREAS, The agricultural industry is part of the foundation upon which our distinct American heritage is built; New York State and the entire United States are dependent on our agricultural industry for a variety of food products; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize the achievements of those family-owned farms which substantially contribute to the economic vitality of their communities and the entire Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate Matson Meadow Farm upon the occasion of its designation as recipient of the Century Farm Award from the New York State Agricultural Society; and

WHEREAS, The Century Farm program was established in 1937 and honors New York Farms in continuous operation on the same land by the same family for over 100 years; and

WHEREAS, Owned and operated by Jay and Tricia Casey Bana, Matson Meadow Farm is a cattle raising agricultural operation in Onondaga County, New York; and

WHEREAS, Established in 1915, Matson Meadow Farm's original farmstead was founded by Tricia Casey Bana's great-grandparents, Cornelius "Neil" and Nellie Casey, and began as a dairy and crop farm, growing grain and vegetables; and

WHEREAS, Cornelius Casey's sons, John and Donald, took over the dairy operation and farmed together for many years under the name Casey Broth-

ers; after John purchased a dairy farm nearby, Donald continued to farm with help from his son Neil, who along with his wife, Barb, purchased the farm next door in 1981; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the years, succeeding generations of the Casey and Bana families at Matson Meadow Farm have persevered and adapted to the challenges of modern farming in New York State; and

WHEREAS, Today, Jay and Tricia Casey Bana raise heifers for Jay's father, steers for beef, and Jersey bulls for breeding; in addition, the original farm cropland is used to grow hay and corn to feed the cattle, as well as vegetables, oats, and Christmas trees; and

WHEREAS, This esteemed couple has been called upon to contribute their time and talents to countless civic and charitable endeavors and have always given of themselves unstintingly; and

WHEREAS, Tricia Casey Bana has received the James Quinn Award for her 10 years of involvement on the board of the Onondaga County Farm Bureau; she is also a past-President and committee member of the Cornell Women's Club of Syracuse and participates in the Annual Career Day at Fabius-Pompey High School; and

WHEREAS, Jay Bana has served as a loan officer covering the Cortland Farm Credit Office for 19 years, and is known for his community involvement; and

WHEREAS, Under the able guidance of Jay and Tricia Casey Bana, Matson Meadow Farm will continue to its tradition of providing high quality agricultural products to the people of New York State for many years to come; and

WHEREAS, It is with great pleasure that this Legislative Body acknowledges the success of this exceptional multi-generation family business and its contributions to the local and State economies, fully confident

that it will continue to enjoy the sparkling successes it has experienced thus far; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to

congratulate Matson Meadow Farm upon the occasion of its designation as recipient of the Century Farm Award from the New York State Agricultural Society; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Jay and Tricia Casey Bana, Matson Meadow Farm.