

STATE OF NEW YORK

LEGISLATURE OF ERIE COUNTY

BUFFALO, N.Y., OCTOBER 20TH, 2016 A.D.

I HEREBY CERTIFY, *That at a regular session of the Legislature of Erie County, held in the County Hall, in the City of Buffalo, on the 20th day of October, 2016 A.D., a resolution was adopted, of which the following is a true copy:*

WHEREAS, *the Erie County Legislature seeks to honor individuals and institutions of Erie County who enhance the quality of life in the community through their efforts; and*

WHEREAS, *Russell J. Salvatore was born in 1933 to Italian immigrants, the youngest of three children, and while still in grammar school Salvatore worked at his father's tavern on Delavan Avenue on the East Side of Buffalo; and*

WHEREAS, *in 1967, Russell J. Salvatore established Salvatore's Italian Gardens, having been in a little yellow building where the current restaurant now stands; and*

WHEREAS, *in 2008, Russell J. Salvatore at the age of 75, opened "Russell's Steak, Chops and More" along with "Salvatore's Grand Hotel," and already these new properties have drawn national attention for Food Quality and Level of Service, with Russell's Steak, Chops and More being considered one of the premier steakhouses in New York State, and Salvatore's Grand Hotel having recently received a Talk of the Town Award, as well as top honors on Trip Advisor.com based on traveler's feedback; and*

WHEREAS, *Russell J. Salvatore also created the "Patriots and Heroes Park" on Transit Road right in front of Russell's Steaks to honor all servicemen, local heroes lost, and everyone lost from the plane crash of Flight 3407; and*

WHEREAS, *since building "Patriots and Heroes Park" Russell J. Salvatore has added a statue of St. Michael the Archangel, patron saint of law enforcement, and a World War II monument dedicated to the men who fought in the "Battle of the Bulge"; and*

WHEREAS, *Russell J. Salvatore has given much of his resources and time to the benefit of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, the Variety Club of Buffalo, Juvenile Diabetes of Buffalo, the Heritage House, Woman's & Children's Hospital, the Italian American Federation, along with the local school districts of Lancaster, Williamsville, Amherst and Clarence; and*

WHEREAS, *in 2012, Russell J. Salvatore worked with the Olmstead conservancy to honor the fallen heroes of the war of 1812 by funding the replacing two "marker" willow trees in Delaware Park, and in 2013 he took his philanthropy to a new level by joining forces with the administration of the Erie*

County Medical Center in a drive to improve patient relations donating new flat screen TV's for the whole hospital, including an agreement that no patient will ever have to pay for television service again; and

WHEREAS, *Russell J. Salvatore* loves the city of Buffalo and could not picture himself anywhere else, having been a proud sponsor for many years of the city's New Year's Eve Ball Drop, the Buffalo Jill's and the city's Fourth of July Celebrations; and

WHEREAS, this past year *Russell J. Salvatore's* new endeavor was Luna, the Buffalo Zoo polar bear, having assisted in their campaign to build a new habitat for their newest resident, which included a personal gift, and where 100% of the proceeds from his autobiography will go to the Zoo; and

WHEREAS, in the spirit of giving back *Russell J. Salvatore* has made arrangements in his *Russell J. Salvatore* Foundation to continue his legacy, having signed on as a major sponsor for the Kids escaping Drugs campaign, The Make a Wish Program, the Food Bank of WNY Buffalo's Meals on Wheels organization, Trocaire College, and with his most recent gift of almost 2 million dollars to ECMC, Roswell, UB Medical Campus, the Heritage Learning Center, the Lancaster Depew Boys and Girls Club, the Lancaster Police Department, and a new Indoor Baseball field, which will ensure that his give back attitude will impact WNY for many years to come; and

WHEREAS, the Amherst Chamber of Commerce will honor the work of the *Russell J. Salvatore* with their Frank Ciminelli Lifetime Achievement Award on October 24, 2016 at the Celebrating Business Excellence Event.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, the Erie County Legislature pauses in its deliberations to recognize and acknowledge

Russell J. Salvatore

on receiving the Frank Ciminelli Lifetime Achievement Award from the Amherst Chamber of Commerce, and for his long-standing success in business and to providing numerous resources to the Western New York community.

Thomas A. Loughran
Erie County Legislator, 5th District

Edward A. Rath, III
Erie County Legislator, 6th District