

STATE OF NEW YORK
LEGISLATURE OF ERIE COUNTY
BUFFALO, N.Y., SEPTEMBER 22, 2022 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 22nd day of September 2022 A.D., a resolution was adopted, of which the following is a true copy:

**Honoring and Recognizing Russell Salvatore
As Citizen of the Month**

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

WHEREAS, America's progress has been driven by pioneers who think big, take risks and work hard; and

WHEREAS, from the storefront shops that anchor Main Street to the high-tech startups that keep America on the cutting edge, small businesses are the backbone of our economy and the cornerstones of our nation's promise; and

WHEREAS, **Russell Salvatore** is a hard-working, self-made man who has built his empire through hard work and determination; and

WHEREAS, **Russell Salvatore** started working as a kid for his dad in his saloon/restaurant, shining spittoons and peeling potatoes; and

WHEREAS, in 1967, **Russell Salvatore** took a small hot dog stand and turned it into a restaurant, where he would personally welcome his guests, take their orders, cook and serve the food; and

WHEREAS, this restaurant became Salvatore's Italian Gardens which still sits today on the corner of Genesee and Transit roads and has three banquet rooms, three kitchens, and a dining room and lounge that can seat over three hundred people for dinner; and

WHEREAS, Russell Salvatore would soon open the Garden Place Hotel, which currently has one hundred and sixty-six rooms and suites, a beautiful courtyard, meeting facilities, lobby lounge, and streetscape to beautify the exterior; and

WHEREAS, in 2008, at the age of seventy-five, **Russell Salvatore** embarked on his proudest endeavor and built Russell's Steaks, Chops, and More and the seventy-six-room Grand Hotel; and

WHEREAS, approaching ninety years old, **Russell Salvatore** still works seven days a week, and you can always find him on the property of Russell's; and

WHEREAS, Russell Salvatore's restaurant and hotel are only part of who he is; and

WHEREAS, from a young age, **Russell Salvatore** was taught to never take customers for granted and to give back to the community to help make it stronger; and

WHEREAS, Russell Salvatore has ongoing relationships with the Variety Club of Buffalo, Juvenile Diabetes, Roswell Park Cancer Institute, The Aides community of Buffalo, and Lancaster High School; and

WHEREAS, Russell Salvatore helped build the School of Hospitality at Trocaire College, where they offer scholarships, internships, and job opportunities to the students; and

WHEREAS, Russell Salvatore has also developed a prime piece of real estate on Transit Road to keep "Green" and then donate it back to the town as Patriots and Hero's Park; and

WHEREAS, Russell Salvatore created the Russell J. Salvatore Foundation, to which he is leaving instructions to continue his efforts for many years to come; and

WHEREAS, Russell Salvatore is an extraordinary and exceptional individual who is well-deserving of this prestigious honor.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, the Erie County Legislature pauses in its deliberations to honor and recognize **Russell Salvatore** for his entrepreneurial success and generosity as a philanthropist and just a general, all-around good human being.

FRANK J. TODARO

Erie County Legislator, 8th District