

## 2009-J577

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Thomas Strahle upon the occasion of receiving the 2009 Caritas Award from the Catholic Charities Community Services of Orange County on March 24, 2009

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to take note of and publicly acknowledge individuals who have distinguished themselves through their exemplary careers, accomplishments, and purposeful lives of service to their community; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Thomas Strahle upon the occasion of receiving the 2009 Caritas Award from the Catholic Charities Community Services of Orange County at its 3rd Annual Celebration of Charity to be held on Tuesday, March 24, 2009, at Anthony's Pier 9, New Windsor, New York; and

WHEREAS, A man of singular distinction, Thomas Strahle serves as an extraordinary example of one who demonstrates a deep respect for the dignity of every individual by serving the basic needs of the most vulnerable in our midst and by significantly contributing to the building of a compassionate and just society; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Strahle has worked for over 20 years in the Hudson Valley at Pepsi Cola located in Newburgh, New York; an exemplary leader, he serves the company as the Vice President and Chief Operating Officer; he also sits on the Pepsi National Retail Sales Committee for the Independent Bottler's Association; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Strahle has been called upon to contribute his time and talents to countless civic and charitable endeavors and has always given of himself unstintingly; and

WHEREAS, He is an active member of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, where he is a Lector, Commentator and Eucharistic Minister; he is

currently the Chairman of the Pastoral Council and the Lay Director of the Men's Cornerstone Retreat for 2009; from 1979 to 1992, he was active in the Serra Club in the Archdiocese of Newark and served as Governor for the last two years; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Thomas Strahle was a Board member of Pius the XII Youth and Family Services from 1993 until it was succeeded by Catholic Charities Community Service; he currently serves as a Board member for Catholic Charities Community Services and is Chair of the Development Committee; and

WHEREAS, A graduate of St. Bonaventure University, Thomas Strahle earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy; he later received his Master's degree in Business Administration from Monmouth University; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife of 31 years, Catherine DeSantis, their children, Jennifer and Andy Odden, Elizabeth and David Kane, Kevin Strahle and Mary Kate Strahle, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the occurrence of such a compassionate blending of strength, intellect and commitment as that demonstrated by Thomas Strahle over a lifetime of sacrifice and dedication to others; 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 our recognition and applause; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Thomas Strahle upon the occasion of receiving the 2009 Caritas Award from the Catholic Charities Community Services of Orange County; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Thomas Strahle.