

2013-J847

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the Town of Babylon's 24th Annual Women's History Month Celebration

WHEREAS, The State of New York is home to countless women who have contributed to the advancement of our culture through both their traditional and non-traditional roles in society; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the Town of Babylon's 24th Annual Women's History Month Celebration, to be celebrated at the Babylon Town Hall Annex Auditorium on Saturday, March 23, 2013, in North Babylon, New York; and

WHEREAS, The 2013 Women's History Month Awardees include: Robin DiGiacomo, Maxine S. Postal Humanitarian Award; Faye Geames, Community Service Award; Barbara Jaeckel, Commissioner's Recognition Award; Risco D. Mention-Lewis, Esq., Gertrude Van Kirk Woman in Government Award; Victoria Ann Prusinski Russell, Government Appreciation Award; Angela Brooks, Special Recognition Award; and Denise Quintyne, Phoenix Award; and

WHEREAS, Robin DiGiacomo has 18 years experience as a real estate agent and is currently working at RealtyConnectUSA in Massapequa; a lifetime volunteer, she served food to the First Responders at Nino's Restaurant in downtown Manhattan during the September 11th Disaster; in addition, she was slightly affected by Superstorm Sandy, but had asked her village hall if she could help and for over four months, has assisted her community by serving hot food, and distributing the proper necessities throughout; and

WHEREAS, A graduate of Wyandanch High School, Missionary Faye Geames worked as an International Operator in Vicenza, Italy; she is a member of the Revelation Church of God In Christ, Inc. and serves faithfully in several areas of ministry such as the Missionary Board, Usher Board, Food Pantry, Transportation, Shepherd's Ministry, Sunday school, Nursing Home & Jail Ministry; she loves helping others, and can be found transporting the elderly to the different services and events in the community, giving out meals, and participating in the Toys for Tots program

during Christmas; and

WHEREAS, A graduate of Queens College in Flushing, New York, Barbara Jaeckel built her career in the technology field and has held various positions from Key punch Operator, Computer Programmer, Systems Analyst, Systems Engineer, Manager of Systems and Programming and currently holds the position of Director of Information Technologies at the Town of Babylon; her accomplishments include building a stable and secure computer environment for town employees to do their work, bringing free Wi-fi to all Town parks and beaches, installing security camera systems at Town facilities, and implementing Document Management / Imaging Systems and Geographic Information Systems while serving the needs of all town departments and thus serving the constituents of the Town of Babylon; and

WHEREAS, Most recently being the first female and person of color appointed by the Suffolk County Executive to the position of County Deputy Police Commissioner, Risco Mention-Lewis earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice and History at the University of Delaware in 1983, and received her Juris Doctorate at the Hofstra University School of Law in 1993; she began her legal career as a Nassau County Assistant District Attorney in 1993 and in litigating, realized that young people were in dire need of new, comprehensive intervention strategies; active in numerous community projects over the years, her current work entails creating comprehensive programs to combat gang violence and

recidivism through intelligence lead policing, community-oriented policing and assisting to develop Council of Thought and Action groups across the county; and

WHEREAS, A Town of Babylon employee for over 25 years, Victoria Russell is Town Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Control; attending both SUNY Farmingdale and the Katharine Gibbs School, Commissioner Russell works tirelessly managing the Town's Solid Waste Stream and Recycling efforts, as well as the many of the Department's Divisions; with the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy, she effectively managed the enormous unprecedented storm debris that heavily impacted the Town of Babylon; Victoria Russell owes her sense of community and her sense of constituency service to her family; and

WHEREAS, Angela Brooks earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology from Northeastern University; soon thereafter, she began her working

career at nonprofit organizations and has done so for more than 25 years working in the capacity of Program Coordinator, Manager and Director through various organizations which mostly concentrate on youth focused causes; a member of Bethel AME Church in Copiague, she began her mission work by joining the Women's Missionary Society, and became the Chairperson of the Lillian Singleton Missionary Unit, a newly formed unit which mainly focuses on young women between the ages of 18-40; in addition, she began her career at the Girl Scouts of Suffolk County as Field Director and left after a few years, upon returning she became the Director of Administrative Services and was later promoted to Director of Human Resources; she made sure that staff needs were met along with continuing to serve all the girls in Suffolk County; and

WHEREAS, Upon completion of high school, Denise K. Quintyne continued her music education at Berklee College of Music in Boston and later went on to study accounting and finance at AIB School in Manhattan; she currently serves as the Director of the Parent Leadership Initiative program under the Child Care Council of Suffolk Inc. which provides a wide array of quality child care resource and referral services in Suffolk County; her work initiative is based on the belief that the family is the heart of the community and that parents can be the strongest advocates in addressing the needs of children; 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

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RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the Town of Babylon's 24th Annual Women's History Month Celebration; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Town of Babylon's Department of Human Services, and to the aforementioned honorees.