

## 2015-J2118

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Richard Begandy upon the occasion of his selection as the Nassau County 2015 Senior Citizen of the Year by the New York State Office for the Aging

WHEREAS, Senior citizens bring a wealth of experience and knowledge to the increasingly active roles they play in today's society; their past contributions and future participation are a vital part of, and valuable asset to, the fabric of community life and activity; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Richard Begandy upon the occasion of his selection as the Nassau County 2015 Senior Citizen of the Year by the New York State Office for the Aging at its Annual Senior Citizens Day Celebration on Tuesday, May 5, 2015, at the Hart Theatre Lounge in the Egg, Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, Each May, the New York State Office for the Aging pauses to acknowledge the outstanding contributions made by older citizens during National Older Americans Month; and

WHEREAS, Members of older generations have helped build and shape our Nation to be the greatest in the world; they have defended our freedoms and values to ensure that those who come after them may have better lives; nowhere in the Nation is the legacy of their efforts more visible and more a part of the lives of all citizens than here in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Born in Pennsylvania and raised in Rochester, New York, Richard Begandy moved to Long Island, New York, in 1966; and

WHEREAS, Richard Begandy proudly served his country as a member of the 1st Division Association of the United States Marine Corps; in addition, he served in the United States Navy from 1954-1958; and

WHEREAS, After his discharge, Richard Begandy held the position of both Operations/Plant Manager and Warehouse/Traffic Manager; and

WHEREAS, This esteemed gentleman 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, A committed volunteer for many years, Richard Begandy has devoted his life to the veterans of his Massapequa community; since 2004, he has served as the Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 7763, Massapequa Park; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Richard Begandy was instrumental in organizing the Massapequa Park Veterans and Gold Star Mothers Monument; he oversees and speaks at annual Korean War Anniversary Ceremonies, as well as promoting Americanism, especially to today's youth; and

WHEREAS, Richard Begandy proudly honors the service men, women, and veterans in many ceremonies conducted by local schools, the Village of Massapequa Park, Town of Oyster Bay, and throughout Nassau County; and

WHEREAS, This remarkable man enjoys attending events for veterans and distributing clothing and personal items to residents of the Northport Medical Center; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife of 30 years, and his five children, as well as his six grandchildren, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, Richard Begandy is truly dedicated to assisting his community, the VFW, and all military veterans and their families; his greatest reward is knowing that he has helped young people by instilling in them pride in the United States, appreciation for their freedom, and an understanding for the need to care for all veterans; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of his community service, a period of constructive involvement, Richard Begandy has stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Richard Begandy has displayed throughout his life; and

WHEREAS, Richard Begandy, a very active and industrious man, has inspired and enriched the lives of those whom he serves through his volunteerism, generously sharing the wisdom gained over years of experiencing life to its fullest; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Richard Begandy upon the occasion of being selected as the Nassau County 2015 Senior Citizen of the Year by the New York State Office for the Aging; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Richard Begandy.