



Proclamation



Whereas:

the Office of the Suffolk County Executive is proud to recognize those individuals who have rendered significant contributions for the enhancement of our region and the betterment of our residents; and

WHEREAS: it is fitting and proper to formally acknowledge the individuals who contribute to the Suffolk County community. Through their dedicated service, these individuals play a crucial role in enhancing the vibrancy of our communities and positively impacting the lives of those who reside within them; and

WHEREAS: Greg and Ernie Schimizzi embarked on their television journey in the 1950s. Their father would regularly accompany them to Rockefeller Center to witness the live production of the renowned "Today Show" hosted by Dave Garroway. This experience left an indelible mark on their young minds, a lasting impression that endures even today; and

WHEREAS in 1977, Greg and Ernie joined forces to establish Video Voice Inc., a television production and distribution company. Through their collaboration, they successfully produced over 150 motion pictures and forged a valuable partnership with MacMillan Publishing Company and the Canadian Broadcasting System. Fast forward to 1994, when an exciting opportunity presented itself. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) offered the final UHF license in Southampton, leading to the birth of WVVH- Hamptons Television. This marked a significant milestone for Greg, Ernie, and their team. By 1995, WVVH- Hamptons Television had set up a state-of-the-art studio near the East Hampton Airport. This strategic location allowed them to broadcast their content 24 hours a day, captivating audiences around the clock; and

WHEREAS: Greg and Ernie have remained true to the stations mission – providing local service to the communities on Long Island. WVVH is famous for its live coverage of the Hamptons Classic Horse Show. The station has covered the Hamptons International Film Festival, the Mercedes Benz Polo Challenge, the East Hampton Sandcastle Contest, American Heart Association's Heart of the Hamptons Ball and Long Island BOLI Awards for the best news coverage and advertising creativity on Long Island; and Emmy and Press Club of Long Island recognition; and

WHEREAS: the station has been recognized with multiple awards for its unwavering dedication to public service. Notably, it was honored by the NYSBA for its exceptional efforts in serving Long Island during the devastating Superstorm Sandy. Additionally, the station has received numerous prestigious "Serving New York Awards" for its impactful public service campaigns, which have provided invaluable support to various non-profit organizations. Some of these commendable initiatives include the Clamshell Foundation, ASPCA Horse Rescue Efforts, Riders with Disabilities, Meals on Wheels, and the Wounded Warriors Project, among many others; and

WHEREAS: throughout their journey, Greg and Ernie's dedication to excellence and their passion for the television industry have been the driving forces behind their success. Their commitment to delivering high-quality programming has earned them a reputable position in the industry, making Video Voice Inc. and WVVH- Hamptons Television household names.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Steven Bellone, as County Executive of the County of Suffolk, do hereby commend

**GREG & ERNIE SCHIMIZZI
WVVH-HAMPTONS TELEVISION
NEW YORK STATE BROADCASTERS ASSOCIATION HALL OF FAME**

In acknowledgment of their invaluable and substantial contributions to our communities, and on behalf of the 1.5 million residents of Suffolk County, I wholeheartedly extend my congratulations and best wishes for their continued success in the future.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the County of Suffolk to be affixed this thirtieth day of September, in the year two thousand twenty-three.

**Steven Bellone, County Executive
County of Suffolk, New York**

