

PROCLAMATION
In Honor of
Monarch Butterflies

WHEREAS, the Town of Ossining is home to many native plants and pollinator species, including the majestic monarch butterfly, which has sadly experienced massive population losses over the past few decades; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Ossining recognizes that human health ultimately depends on well-functioning ecosystems, and that biodiverse regions can better support food production, healthy soil and air quality and can foster healthy connections between humans and wildlife; and

WHEREAS, pollinator species are in decline due to habitat loss and the use of pesticides, causing species like the monarch butterfly to decline significantly in the past 25 years; and

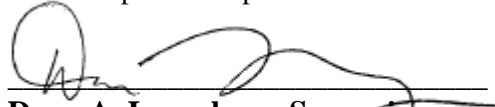
WHEREAS, butterflies are extremely beneficial, pollinating many cultivated flowers and crops, and serve as an indicator species for the ecological health of large geographic areas; and

WHEREAS, in December 2020, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced that the listing of the monarch butterfly as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act is warranted and the beloved brown and orange monarch butterfly is now a candidate for protective measures under the Endangered Species Act; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Ossining continues to explore environmentally-friendly infrastructure, legislation, and practices, with guidance from experts to best support local ecosystems and provide such benefits for our residents; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Ossining renews its commitment to support local, state and national efforts that protect, restore, and conserve habitats for pollinators as demonstrated in our recent beekeeping legislation and our planting of food sources for pollinators such as the monarch butterfly, as well as foster a greater connection between residents and wildlife; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that I, Dana A. Levenberg, Supervisor of the Town of Ossining, with the enthusiastic support of the Ossining Town Board, recognize the wonderful work done by residents during Earth Week to protect monarch butterflies and other native plants and pollinator species, and encourage all residents to participate in community activities that support and celebrate pollinator protection.



Dana A. Levenberg, Supervisor

**Council Members,
Elizabeth R. Feldman
Gregory G. Meyer
Jackie G. Shaw
Northern Wilcher, Jr.**



April 20, 2021