

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 174 – 2022

A RESOLUTION TO CEREMONIALLY DESIGNATE A PORTION OF THE COUNTY ROAD KNOWN AS WEST MAIN STREET, BETWEEN SPRING STREET AND SOUTH STREET IN OYSTER BAY, AS “MARIE COLVIN WAY” AND DIRECTING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS TO INSTALL CONSPICUOUS SIGNAGE ALONG SAID ROADWAY.

WHEREAS, Marie Colvin was a world-renowned journalist who worked as a foreign affairs correspondent in a career spanning more than thirty years, reporting from the front lines of war zones around the world; and

WHEREAS, Marie Colvin, raised in East Norwich and attended Oyster Bay High School, was the epitome of bravery, tenacity, skill, and compassion; and

WHEREAS, February 22, 2022, marks the ten-year anniversary of her tragic assassination by the Syrian Assad regime, dying at fifty-six years young and cutting short her life-saving work; and

WHEREAS, Countless Nassau residents and the world at large have held this American hero in high regard for her dedication to the truth and the importance of shining a light on humanity in extremis, pushed to the unendurable; and

WHEREAS, in 1999, in East Timor, she was credited with saving the lives of 1,500 women and children from a compound besieged by Indonesian-backed forces; and

WHEREAS, Marie Colvin was a witness and an intermediary during the final days of the Sri Lankan Civil War, and despite sustaining serious injuries and losing sight in her left eye, continued reporting on war crimes committed against Tamils and revealed said atrocities to the world; and

WHEREAS, Marie Colvin has received many awards and honors during her career, including the Courage in Journalism Award, the British Press Award and Foreign Press

International's Journalist of the Year Award, with many calling her the greatest war correspondent of her generation; and

WHEREAS, Marie Colvin has inspired countless around the world, spurring documentaries about her life and work, such as "Under the Wire" and "Bearing Witness," as well as a film about her life titled "A Private War"; and

WHEREAS, after her death, Stony Brook University established the Marie Colvin Center for International Reporting and the Marie Colvin Fellowship in her honor; and

WHEREAS, Marie Colvin is a local legend and role model for our community, especially young girls, inspiring our community to pursue the same freedoms and justices she did, locally, and beyond; and

WHEREAS, Women's History Month coincides closely with the ten-year anniversary of her tragic assassination, and in honoring Marie Colvin during this time, Nassau County sets a precedent and example for being a community of progress, freedom, and justice; and

WHEREAS, it would be a fitting tribute to Marie Colvin to ceremonially designate a portion of the County road known as West Main Street, between Spring Street and South Street in Oyster Bay, as "Marie Colvin Way"; and

WHEREAS, said designation is hereby declared a public purpose; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Department of Public Works is directed to install conspicuous signage along the County road known as West Main Street, between Spring Street and South Street in Oyster Bay, designating said roadway as "Marie Colvin Way", and all County agencies and departments are directed to take immediate steps to effectuate this ceremonial designation with signage; and be it further

RESOLVED, that such designation shall in no case be construed to change the official name of the roadway from West Main Street.

