

2009-J545

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending the Castleton Public Library upon the occasion of celebrating its 100th Anniversary on March 7, 2009

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities across the great State of New York is reflective of certain exemplary institutions whose purpose is dedicated to serving the community and the needs of its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend the Castleton Public Library upon the occasion of its 100th Anniversary to be celebrated at an Open House on Saturday, March 7, 2009; and WHEREAS, The Castleton Public Library was opened in 1906, in a small building behind the McKnight Firehouse on First Street; early supporters of the library included children's book illustrators Dorothy Lathrop and Mrs. Samuel Cheney; and

WHEREAS, The Castleton Library Association was formed in January of 1908, with Arthur C. Cheney as its President; the library was granted a charter by New York to serve the residents of the village of Castleton on April 1, 1909; for nearly two decades, the town of Schodack contracted with the library to provide services to its residents as well; and

WHEREAS, The library moved to its current location at 85 South Main Street in 1927; at that time the library shared the site with the Castleton Village and Schodack town offices, occupying the southern rooms to the right of the main hallway; in 1969, the town of Schodack offices moved, and today, the library fills the entire right half of the building; and

WHEREAS, In the mid 1970s the Castleton Public Library joined the Upper Hudson Library Federation; this significantly broadened patron choice by providing access to the interlibrary loan system, a gateway to thousands of additional books and media in other participating libraries; and

WHEREAS, In 1977, Claire Goodlow and Alice Walsh began cataloging the

library's contents; volunteers, Sharon Bamberger, Barbara Gershman, Jean Hutchings and Nancy Wasson have also helped with this incredible task throughout the years; and

WHEREAS, Since 1999, Darlene Miller has served as the library's esteemed director; a former preschool teacher, she has worked tirelessly to expand the children's programming and community outreach offered by the facility; she leads regular toddler and preschool story hours, organizes teen game nights, book discussion groups, family movie night, informational meetings on a variety of topics and has forged a close and cooperative relationship with the schools and civic organizations in the area; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Darlene Miller has been instrumental in bringing the highly successful New York State Summer Reading program to the library annually; and

WHEREAS, The Castleton Public Library has been awarded recognition from the Upper Hudson Library System, New York Library Association and nationally by LIBRARY JOURNAL who named it runner up "Best Small Library in America" 2008; and

WHEREAS, Such success enjoyed by the Castleton Public Library is in direct correlation to the efforts of the many individuals who have supported the development of the library over the years, including the Friends of the Library organization as well as a diverse group of volunteers; and

WHEREAS, Equally commendable is the Castleton Public Library's superbly-skilled staff, whose involvement is and has always been characterized by an impressive commitment, an unbridled enthusiasm, and an uncompromising standard of excellence in all of their efforts on behalf of the library and the population it serves; and

WHEREAS, Steeped in a proud and distinguished history, the Castleton Public Library may take just pride in its purposeful growth, as it looks forward to continuing to serve the educational, cultural and intellectual needs of the community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the Castleton Public Library upon the occasion of celebrating its 100th Anniversary; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Darlene Miller, Director, Castleton Public Library.