

## 2009-J3822

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the Incorporated Village of Freeport's First Black History Month Celebration

WHEREAS, Black History Month, which was founded in 1926 by Dr. Carter G. Woodson, is celebrated, nationally, each year during the month of February to recognize and pay tribute to many African-Americans long-neglected by society and the history books; and

WHEREAS, During the early 1970s, Negro History Week became known as Black History Week; in 1976, the week-long observance was extended to the entire month of February in order to have enough time for celebratory programs and activities and, thus was established as Black History Month; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the Incorporated Village of Freeport's First Black History Month Celebration on Friday, February 5, 2010, in Freeport, New York; and

WHEREAS, The theme of this event is "Faith Filled Past...Promised Filled Future"; the evening will include the rich history and contributions that the African-American community has given to the Village and the Nation; and

WHEREAS, In the year 2009, the United States of America inaugurated its first African-American President in Barack Obama, and the Incorporated Village of Freeport elected its first African-American Mayor in Andrew Hardwick; and

WHEREAS, This celebration will highlight the many achievements of the Village's African-American community by way of an award ceremony which recognizes individuals or groups that exhibit and exemplify excellence; and

WHEREAS, Freeport's First Black History Month Celebration Honorees include: Daryl and Chatese Allen; Brea Baker; Brooke Baker; Ms. Carol

Green; Bishop Ronald H. Carter, Pastor of Refuge Apostolic Church of Christ; Mrs. Patricia Charthern; Mr. Shawn Davis; The Freeport High School Football Team and The Freeport High School Cheerleaders; Mr. John Hardwick; Gamar Patrick Josama; Mr. Ernest J. Kight, Jr., Principal of Freeport High School; the Reverend Dr. Eric Charles Mallette, Pastor of Greater Second Baptist Church; Freeport High School's 2010 Valedictorian Nathan Rodriguez, and Salutatorian Samantha Hollinde; Mr. Hollie Wheeler; and The Reverend Dr. Harry White II, Senior Pastor of Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the lives in their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to excellence certainly have earned recognition and applause; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the Incorporated Village of Freeport's First Black History Month Celebration; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the aforementioned honorees, and to Andrew Hardwick, Mayor of the Incorporated Village of Freeport.