

2009-K1314

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the Chappaqua Volunteer Fire Department to be celebrated on May 14, 2010

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is proud to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Chappaqua Volunteer Fire Department and to honor its past and present firefighting members for 100 years of fire protection to the citizens of Chappaqua, New York, and its surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, The members of the Chappaqua Volunteer Fire Department will proudly celebrate this most auspicious occasion with a 100th Anniversary Parade to be held on Friday, May 14, 2010; and

WHEREAS, The birth of the Chappaqua Volunteer Fire Department came in May of 1910, when J.I.D. Bristol Engine Company was chartered; the Company was named after its founder who was the largest land developer in the town at that time; along with founding the Company, he also donated the first "truck", a Thomas Car; the Department operated out of Odd Fellows Hall, located on Rt. 117 across from today's headquarters; and

WHEREAS, A few weeks after Bristol was chartered, a second company, called the Chappaqua Fire Company was founded; their headquarters were in Crossons Blacksmith shop, which was located where the Quaker Street Bridge now stands; on August 4, 1911, the company's name was changed to the Chappaqua Independent Fire Company; and

WHEREAS, In 1928, the town formed the New Castle Fire District No. 1; at this time the two existing companies joined to form what is known today as the Chappaqua Fire Department; the new fire district appointed William Bullock as the first Chief of the Department; and

WHEREAS, As the Department grew in size, the wives of the members decided to pitch in and help, as a result, in 1935, they formed the Ladies Auxiliary; in the early 1980s the name was changed to the Associ-

ation of the Chappaqua Fire Department; to this day, this group continues to provide support to the membership which includes fundraising, food preparation as well as public relations events; and

WHEREAS, In October 1937, the Department added a third company, known as the Chappaqua Fire Patrol; they assumed the duties of policing fire scenes and traffic control; today, all members of the Department are cross trained in all aspects of firefighting/rescue and are assigned specific duties by the officer or chief in charge; and

WHEREAS, Up until 1953, all the Department's equipment was housed at the Senter Street Firehouse; then, in 1954, because of added equipment, a new firehouse was built on the corner of Bedford Road and King Street (Routes 117 and 120); when completed, the Bristol Engine Company moved in while the Chappaqua Independent Company and the Chappaqua Fire Patrol remained at Senter Street; and

WHEREAS, As the town continued to grow and the demands of the department became greater, an addition to the Bedford Road Firehouse was constructed in 1979; when completed, the Independent Company relocated to the Bedford Road Firehouse; in 1985, the Chappaqua Fire Patrol moved into the Bedford Road Firehouse as it was determined that responding out of one firehouse ensured that the Department had the appropriate manpower on each piece of apparatus; and

WHEREAS, Presently, the Chappaqua Volunteer Fire Department operates three Class Engines (pumpers), one 75' Tower Ladder, one Heavy Rescue (Jaws of Life), one Utility Vehicle, a 1937 Antique Engine (pumper) and an 1851 Crabb Hose Carriage; the Utility, Antique and Hose Carriage are all housed at Senter Street with the remainder of the apparatus at Fire Headquarters; and

WHEREAS, The Chappaqua Fire Department remains a fully volunteer department staffed by one Chief, two Assistant Chiefs, one Deputy Chief, one Captain, three Lieutenants and 72 firefighters; and

WHEREAS, Fire departments are an integral part of community protection

services in every locality of our State; during the past 100 years, the courageous and devoted firefighters of the Chappaqua Volunteer Fire Department have valiantly responded to all types of fire emergencies and have won the praise and respect of the community which they serve; and WHEREAS, With a membership of dedicated firefighters, the record of the Chappaqua Volunteer Fire Department in public service and fire protection is one to be envied; for 24 hours a day, for 365 days a year, for 100 years, whenever the alarm sounded, these noble volunteers left their homes and went to the aid of their neighbors; and

WHEREAS, The brave firefighters of the Chappaqua Volunteer Fire Department are prepared to risk their lives every day to help save the lives of others and to protect homes and property from the destruction caused by fire; and

WHEREAS, In addition to the skill and devoted service demonstrated by individual firefighters, the Chappaqua Volunteer Fire Department reflects the history and development of firefighting over the past 100 years; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body cannot express sufficient gratitude to those devoted individuals who recognize that the preservation of life and property is a sacred responsibility and who make that responsibility their own by serving as firefighters; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that we should give special recognition to those who work so assiduously for the betterment of their communities, and acknowledge publicly the heroic good works performed by the volunteer fire departments of this great Empire State, their officers and auxiliaries; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to proudly commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Chappaqua Volunteer Fire Department to be celebrated on May 14, 2010; and be it further RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Chappaqua Volunteer Fire Department.