

## 2015-J2875

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 85th Anniversary of the Oneonta Lions Club on June 20, 2015

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities across New York State are reflective of the concerned and dedicated efforts of those organizations and individuals who would devote themselves to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 85th Anniversary of the Oneonta Lions Club, to be celebrated at a dinner on Saturday, June 20, 2015, at Stella Luna Ristorante, Oneonta, New York; and

WHEREAS, The Oneonta Lions Club is part of Lions Clubs International, one of the largest service organizations in the world, and is deeply committed to meeting the challenges of public service; currently, there are approximately 45,000 clubs across the globe; and

WHEREAS, The goal of the Oneonta Lions Club and the entire Lions organization is to empower volunteers to serve their communities, meet humanitarian needs, encourage peace and promote international understanding; and

WHEREAS, Lions are recognized worldwide for their service to the blind and visually-impaired; this service began when Helen Keller challenged the Lions to become her "knights of the blind in the crusade against darkness" during the Lions' 1925 International Convention; and

WHEREAS, Established in 1930, the Oneonta Lions Club consists of dedicated men and women who volunteer their time to perform a variety of community service activities; and

WHEREAS, The Oneonta Lions Club participates in the Lions Recycle for

Sight, a used eyeglasses recycling program; throughout the years, this vital organization has collected thousands of eyeglasses for distribution to people in need in developing nations; and

WHEREAS, In addition, the Oneonta Lions Club has assisted hundreds of area residents to obtain necessary eye care; and

WHEREAS, Today, under the luminous leadership of President Joe Camarata, the Oneonta Lions Club supports numerous local projects including Camp Badger, K-9 Freedom Guide Dog Training Program, Family Service's Association's Helping Hand Program, Family Services Emergency Fund, Family Services Adopt-a-Family at Christmas, Adopt-A-Mile Highway Clean-up, Pit Run Mile Marker, Huntington Library, and Lions SEE early vision screening, as well as an Annual Halloween Parade; and

WHEREAS, Moreover, the Oneonta Lions Club sponsors several awards given to members of the community such as OHS Awards, the Ed Hughes BOCES Award, and the St. Mary's Award; and

WHEREAS, Each year, the Oneonta Lions Club hosts events in an effort to raise funds for worthy causes, including the Pit Pasta Dinner, Koeze Nut Sales, and a Spring Raffle; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when organizations of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 85th Anniversary of the Oneonta Lions Club, and to commend its members, past and present, who have labored so conscientiously to secure and improve the quality of life in the community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Joe Camarata, President, Oneonta Lions Club.