

2015-J4830

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 70th Anniversary of the Yulan Fire Department

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is proud to commemorate the 70th Anniversary of the Yulan Fire Department and to honor its past and present firefighting members for 70 years of fire protection to the citizens of Yulan, New York and its surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, Fire departments are an integral part of community protection services in every locality of our State; during the past 70 years, the courageous and devoted firefighters of the Yulan 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, The first organized meeting, incorporation and designation of officers occurred in 1947, but the Yulan Fire Department actually began in late 1946; a young man from West Hempstead Long Island Fire Department, Joe Wulforst, was vacationing in Yulan and began talking with locals about the formation of a volunteer fire company; and

WHEREAS, Until this point, fire protection and rescue coverage had been provided by neighboring towns of Shohola and Narrowsburg with support coming from as far away as Sparrowbush; and

WHEREAS, In December of 1946, Joe Wulforst brought a 1927 Seagrave pumper up to Yulan from West Hempstead, during which time three founding fathers paid for the truck which was housed in Lou Hensel's garage; Lou went on to become Yulan Fire Department's first Chief; and

WHEREAS, With the purchase of a truck, an official fire house was now in order, in March of 1948 land was purchased and two years later the first building of the Yulan Fire Department was complete; and

WHEREAS, A satellite station, built with donations of material and labor was erected in Eldred on town owned property in 1952; the building

was to be shared with the American Legion Ambulance Corp.; a second satellite station was completed in 1955, in Barryville on land donated by Arthur Rohman; and

WHEREAS, Yulan Fire Department purchased its first "new" truck in 1957, a Chevrolet commercial truck chassis on which the members installed a 1,200 gallon tank and portable pump; prior to this purchase, all of the Department's trucks had been second hand; and

WHEREAS; The Department entered the age of electronics and dispatching with the purchase of Home Alerting Plectrons in 1974, and a single emergency number was in use for the Town of Highland; and

WHEREAS, Efforts by the Town of Highland to build a new Emergency Services building in Eldred came to fruition in 1989, when a new and much larger building was completed and shared by the Yulan Fire Department and the American Legion Ambulance Service; this cohabitation lasted until 2004, when the American Legion built their own base of operations; and

WHEREAS, Today, the Yulan Fire Department shares the Emergency Services building with the Sullivan County Sheriff's Department; and

WHEREAS, With a membership of dedicated firefighters, the record of the Yulan Fire Department in public service and fire protection is one to be envied; for 24 hours a day, for 365 days a year, for 70 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 Yulan 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 Yulan Fire Department reflects the history and development of firefighting over the past 70 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 70th Anniversary of the Yulan Fire Department; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Yulan Fire Department.