

2015-J5761

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the Neighborhood of North Utica, New York on May 20, 2016

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to honor and commemorate the distinguished histories of the communities which comprise the noble body of this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Neighborhood of North Utica, New York, to be celebrated at the North Utica Senior Citizens Community Center on Friday, May 20, 2016; and

WHEREAS, The history of North Utica begins in 1773, when George J. Weaver, Captain Mark Damuth, and Christian Reall settled with their families into an area known as Deerfield Corners; they were followed by Peter, Nicholas, and George Weaver, distant relatives of the original Weaver family, as well as George Damuth and the Harter families; and

WHEREAS, In 1798, the Town of Deerfield was formed by an act of the State Legislature with its boundaries running from the West Canada Creek in the North to the Mohawk River in the South; the land within the town consisted of two primary tracts named Gage's Patent and Cosby's Manor; and

WHEREAS, The Town of Deerfield was a center for commerce, and hosted many businesses including cheese factories and a glass factory; it was also home to numerous churches and had two post offices; and

WHEREAS, In 1868, Town of Deerfield resident, Governor Horatio Seymour, was chosen by his party to be their candidate for President of the United States, but lost the election to the popular Civil War hero Ulysses S. Grant; and

WHEREAS, In 1916, the Town of Deerfield was annexed by the City of

Utica and became what is known today as North Utica; a portion of the town was also annexed to become part of the Town of Marcy; and WHEREAS, Amelia Earhart made an emergency landing on Trenton Road during a storm in 1929, and stayed overnight with her sister, who taught at the Country Day School in New Hartford; and

WHEREAS, In 1939, "Drums Along the Mohawk" was released as a major motion picture, documenting the life of the early settlers of Deerfield; and

WHEREAS, During the 1950s, North Utica expanded and grew with the addition of many new housing developments and businesses; Lion's Club Park, now known as the Wilderness Park, was also dedicated on July 4, 1959; and

WHEREAS, As television gained popularity during the mid-20th Century, WKTV and WUTR studios were built atop Smith Hill, and Dick Clark began his career at WKTV studios in Deerfield; and

WHEREAS, Remaining fruitful over the ebb and flow of decades of growth and change, North Utica continues its commitment to enhancing the quality of life of its citizens, ensuring a positive business, institutional and educational climate, and providing all essential services; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Neighborhood of North Utica, New York on May 20, 2016, recognizing the significance of the role it continues to play in the life of the community of the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted Samantha Colosimo-Testa, Councilwoman for the 6th Ward, Utica, New York.