

## 2009-J3297

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the West Nyack Free Library

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities of the great State of New York are reflective of the concerned and devoted efforts of organizations and individuals dedicated to serving the community and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern and fully in accord with its long-standing traditions, it is the intent of this Legislative Body to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the West Nyack Free Library; and

WHEREAS, On Sunday, October 25, 2009, the library's Board of Trustees will proudly celebrate this auspicious anniversary, honoring the West Nyack Free Library and its many wonderful volunteers who have helped and supported the library throughout the past 50 years; and

WHEREAS, The West Nyack Free Library has its origins in property deeded to School District No. Seven of the Town of Clarkstown on November 20, 1886, through a warrantee deed from Abram A. Demarest and his wife, Ann S. Demarest, for the sum of seven hundred dollars; originally a two-room frame structure was built on the site for the purpose of educating the local children and in 1922, a brick building was added; and

WHEREAS, The frame structure was razed in 1959 and a group of West Nyack residents petitioned the school district to use the brick building as a public library; in 1989, the trustees brought a proposition before the taxpayers to purchase the building and property in a revenue neutral manner; on December 13, 1989, it was overwhelmingly passed, and contracts were signed on November 1, 1990, transferring the building and property to the West Nyack Free Library; and

WHEREAS, Renovation and expansion of the building to triple its size was begun; on October 2, 1994, a rededication ceremony was held for this new building; this addition and alteration received an honor award for recognition of architectural excellence by the American Institute of Architects Westchester/Mid-Hudson Chapter; and

WHEREAS, The lower level of the building includes a community room, periodical room and technical services staff areas; of historical note, the library has a beautifully restored desk from the original school-house, and the old school bell, which was also in the original school-house, was obtained from the school district on October 1, 1995, and now hangs in the library hall which was dedicated to Odena Kling, an advisor to the original board; and

WHEREAS, Libraries are centers of learning and the cornerstones of community life; West Nyack Free Library has continuously been able to expand its services to meet the needs and challenges of its patrons and has become an ever more important educational, cultural, and community institution; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the West Nyack Free Library; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the West Nyack Free Library.