

## 2013-J2502

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 75th Anniversary of the Italian Fraternal Society of Green Island, celebrated on May 11, 2013

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to those fraternal organizations of high purpose and worthy accomplishment whose endeavors have faithfully served the welfare of the citizens of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Italian Fraternal Society of Green Island; this august milestone was celebrated on Saturday, May 11, 2013, at Franklin Terrace, Troy, New York; and

WHEREAS, The anniversary celebration included a tribute to ten honorees who have provided a combined 610 years of service to the organization: Joe DeMento, Anne (DeMento) Lazzaro, Ted Tornesello, Lucy (Tornesello) Catellier, Marian (Botticelli) Cocca, Al Valenty, John Fusco, Angela (Fargnoli) Weisenforth, Marie (Fargnoli) Heffern, and Michael Cocca; and

WHEREAS, The Italian Fraternal Society of Green Island began on September 28, 1937, when a small group of Italian men met to give aid and assistance to their fellow Italian brethren in the decade following the Great Depression; and

WHEREAS, Initially holding meetings in members' homes, the expanding membership of the Italian Fraternal Society of Green Island required ever larger spaces to accommodate them; eventually, a new building for club activities was erected in the 1960s using donations from members; and

WHEREAS, The Italian Fraternal Society was a focal point for many Italian-American families during that time period; members built commu-

nity through service activities, spaghetti dinners, and spending time with each other and their families; and

WHEREAS, The founding members of the Italian Fraternal Society include: Raffaele Cioppa, Antimo Cioppa, Antonio Cocca, Antonia Coretta, Antonio DeCianni, Giuseppe DeCianni, Vincenzo DeConno, Teodore DeConno, John DeMarco, Antonio DeMarco, Rocco DeMento, Teodore Fistola, Angelo Fusco, Julius Iannone, John Korka, John Maiello, Raffaele Miccio, James Poletto, Pasquale Spano, Michael Tornesello, and John Valenti; six of their children are still members of the Society today; and

WHEREAS, Although the building has since been sold due to declining membership, the Italian Fraternal Society is still active, with a diverse group of members, ranging in age from their 20s to their 70s and beyond; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is proudly moved to honor and commend the members of the Italian Fraternal Society of Green Island, past and present, who have labored so conscientiously to secure and improve the quality of life in the community it serves; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Italian Fraternal Society of Green Island; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Italian Fraternal Society of Green Island.