

## 2013-J2721

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the Old Forge Library

WHEREAS, The State of New York takes great pride in acknowledging happy occasions and significant milestones in the distinguished histories of its esteemed entities; and

WHEREAS, The Old Forge Library will celebrate its 100th Anniversary with a variety of events, plays, and special guests throughout 2014; and

WHEREAS, After a prominent New York City resident promised to donate books to Old Forge if the Town could provide a suitable place to house them, a meeting was held to discuss establishing a library in November of 1913; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Benjamin Knapp, Maurice Callahan, W.D. Marks Jr., R.T. Fuller, and W.J. Thistlethwaite led the discussions of starting the library, including securing funding, building shelves, and drafting rules and regulations; and

WHEREAS, The Old Forge Library was granted a provisional charter by New York and opened in February of 1914, in the front room of Mr. Thistlethwaite's real estate office on Main Street; and

WHEREAS, The original Board of Trustees included Walter Marks, Maurice Callahan, Ella Lindsay, Benjamin Knapp, and A.T. Clafee; and

WHEREAS, May Sperry Marks served as the first librarian; she was followed by Mary Ball, Marian Weedmark, Maude Marks, and Mabel Parsons, who served for 34 years; and

WHEREAS, An absolute charter was granted in 1961; that same year, the library became a member of the Mid New York Library System; and

WHEREAS, The library moved to several different locations over the years, from the real estate office, to a small room above what was then the fire hall, and then to a Main Street building donated by Walter

Marks; and

WHEREAS, Librarians during these years included Agnes Fallon, Frederica Roberts, Helen Davis, Betty Tyler, Gwen Birtle, and Carol Hansen; and

WHEREAS, The library moved to its current home on Crosby Boulevard in 1977, just after Isabelle Worthen was appointed Director; and

WHEREAS, The Old Forge Library continues to serve the community as a valuable resource; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Old Forge Library; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Old Forge Library.