

2013-J2768

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 60th Anniversary of the E. John Gavras Center Cerebral Palsy Association of Cayuga County

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to those organizations within our community, and those individuals who run them, that add to the quality of life for all of our residents, and to recognize the contributions such organizations make to our society; and WHEREAS, Primary among those are not-for-profit organizations that, year after year, are responsive to the specific needs of the local citizenry by providing essential services such as educational, therapeutic, and respite care; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the E. John Gavras Center, also known as the United Cerebral Palsy Association of Cayuga County; and

WHEREAS, In the 1950s, Cerebral Palsy was an unfamiliar disease that left parents with only two options for the care of their children, either care for them at home or place them in an institution; and

WHEREAS, In 1953, the City of Auburn, a close-knit industrial community, decided to care for the individuals living in the community with developmental disabilities and special needs by organizing a center where the children stay and receive treatment; a Board of Directors was created from community leaders to oversee a facility; and

WHEREAS, The community knew that resources were available in a young physical therapist with a well-known professional reputation by the name of John Gavras, who the Board of Directors quickly called upon and named Director and Physical Therapist; and

WHEREAS, A local hospital donated space for the 15 children who would receive therapy the first year the facility was operational, and the New

York State Department of Health certified the facility as a clinic; and
WHEREAS, Over the last 60 years, the E. John Gavras Center has been a warm and friendly place where individuals are encouraged to grow personally, build connections and flourish as a person, in addition to receiving quality services and support; and

WHEREAS, The E. John Gavras Center has continued to grow and evolve into an evaluation and treatment center in Cayuga County providing educational, therapeutic, New York State Office for People With Developmental Disabilities programs, and respite care to individuals with special needs; and

WHEREAS, The E. John Gavras Center continues to expand and change to meet the needs of the community by initiating and offering new programs such as Early Childhood Programs and Service, Success by Six, Yoga, Training and Development classes, and Habilitative and Therapeutic services; and

WHEREAS, It is the practice of this Legislative Body that when organizations of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate the E. John Gavras Center and the Cerebral Palsy Association of Cayuga County, and its staff, upon the occasion of its 60th Anniversary, with the hope that this not-for-profit continues to enjoy the successes it has experienced thus far; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Chief Executive Officer Rick Hansinger, and the E. John Gavras Center.