

## 2013-J4357

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the Constantia Volunteer Fire Department, to be celebrated on Saturday, April 26, 2014

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Constantia Volunteer Fire Department, to be celebrated at an Installation of Officers ceremony on Saturday, April 26, 2014, at the West Monroe Fire House in West Monroe, New York, and to honor its past and present firefighting members for a century of bravery and distinguished service; and

WHEREAS, Fire departments are an integral part of community support services in every locality of our State; during the past 100 years, the courageous and devoted firefighters of the Constantia Volunteer Fire Department have valiantly responded to all types of fire emergencies and have won the praise and respect of the community which they serve; and

WHEREAS, The Constantia Volunteer Fire Department was organized in April of 1914, when 68 men from the community came together to form a fire company for the protection and service of the people of Constantia, New York; it was incorporated on May 23, 1914, and thanks to the initiative and courage of its members, has endured ever since; and

WHEREAS, Over the last century, the scope of services offered by the department has evolved to include the courageous duties of fire rescue and fire suppression, fire police investigations, emergency medical services and motor vehicle extrication; its members also perform vital water rescue and recovery operations, as well as ice rescue operations on Oneida Lake; and

WHEREAS, This esteemed fire company is proud of the various tools and equipment in its firehouse; it currently possesses two engine pumpers, one water tanker, two rescue trucks, two water rescue boats, one ATV,

and one snowmobile; and

WHEREAS, The Constantia Volunteer Fire Department responds to over 400 alarms per year, and in 2013, its members have selflessly devoted over 9000 hours to responding to emergency calls; Constantia firefighters have also devoted large amounts of time to expanding and maintaining their skills, collectively averaging 1500 to 2000 hours in training each year; and

WHEREAS, The Constantia Volunteer Fire Department is known for giving back to the community; its major annual event, the Firemen's Field Day, provides food and entertainment, a large community parade, and a variety of activities for children and adults; the department also has sponsored a golf tournament, chicken barbeques, fall festivals, the Miss Oneida Lake Beauty Pageant and a classic and antique car show; and

WHEREAS, With a membership of dedicated firefighters, the record of the Constantia Volunteer Fire Department in public service and fire protection is one to be envied; for 24 hours a day, for 365 days a year, for 100 years, whenever the alarm sounded, these noble volunteers left their homes and went to the aid of their neighbors; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body cannot express sufficient gratitude to those devoted individuals who recognize that the preservation of life and property is a sacred responsibility and who make that responsibility their own by serving as firefighters; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that we should give special recognition to those who work so assiduously for the betterment of their communities, and acknowledge publicly the heroic good works performed by the volunteer fire departments of this great Empire State, their officers and auxiliaries; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to proudly commemorate 100th Anniversary of the Constantia Volunteer Fire Department; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be tran-

mitted to the Constantia Volunteer Fire Department.