

2013-J4689

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the Mahopac Volunteer Fire Department

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Mahopac Volunteer Fire Department which was celebrated on Saturday, January 4, 2014, at the Putnam County Golf Course in Mahopac, New York, and to honor all of its past and present members, for providing 100 years of exemplary fire protection; and

WHEREAS, Volunteer fire departments are an integral part of community protection in localities across this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, For the past 100 years, the courageous and dedicated fire-fighters of the Mahopac Volunteer Fire Department have valiantly volunteered their time to respond to various fire emergencies, all while earning the praise and respect of the community in which they serve; and

WHEREAS, The Mahopac Volunteer Fire Department was established in the fall of 1914, after numerous fires caused great concern among the residents of the community; 40 brave men gathered at the Old Town Hall and under the leadership of George "Shorty" Long and Jerome Peck a new volunteer fire department was created; and

WHEREAS, In January 1915, the department leased the second floor of the railroad station and converted a donated Ford automobile into a fire-fighting vehicle; they were then able to purchase a Mack chemical fire engine, and in 1918, they purchased the old schoolhouse on Croton Falls Road; and

WHEREAS, In 1921, the Mahopac Volunteer Fire Department acquired an advanced Stewart Buffalo pumper, a GMC Buffalo pumper, and an American LaFrance fire engine; members began to render emergency medical assistance with the help of a donated Buick ambulance; and

WHEREAS, The Mahopac Volunteer Fire Department continued to grow and

expand services, during the Great Depression, due in great parts to the selfless efforts and donations of summer vacationers and the citizens of Mahopac; they were remarkably able to donate a fire engine to the new volunteer fire department in neighboring Mahopac Falls; and

WHEREAS, During World War II, the Mahopac Volunteer Fire Department's members bravely served their country as members of the United States Armed Forces; after the war, a new four bay colonial style firehouse was built on Croton Falls Road which has served the Department to the present day; and

WHEREAS, As Mahopac changed from a tourist area to a bedroom community, the Mahopac Volunteer Fire Department continued to provide excellent service, fighting blazes which destroyed all the old hotels in the area; and

WHEREAS, The 1960s will always be remembered for the great heroics of the volunteers' life saving actions and for the recognition attained by the Department winning several NEW YORK DAILY NEWS Vamps's awards; and

WHEREAS, The Mahopac Volunteer Fire Department built its first substation on Crane Road during the 1970s and added a second substation in 1991; today, it continues to update its skills and expertise, while replacing older apparatus with new modern firefighting rigs; and

WHEREAS, A new state-of-the-art firehouse was completed in 2007, and dedicated to all members, past, present and future who have devoted their lives to protect the residents of Mahopac, New York, over the past 100 years; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body cannot express sufficient gratitude to all of those trained and devoted individuals who serve and protect their communities through volunteer fire departments across this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

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

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Mahopac Volunteer Fire Department.