

## 2015-K338

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Crystal Inn, in Warwick, New York

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to take note of and publicly recognize those businesses within the State of New York which substantially contribute to the economic vitality of their communities and the entire Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Crystal Inn, in Warwick, New York; and

WHEREAS, The Crystal Inn has a diverse and evolving history; the renowned restaurant lies in the heart of the Black Dirt farming district, giving the chefs special opportunities to prepare its contemporary American menu, often using local ingredients harvested earlier in the day; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the last decade, there has been a burgeoning agritourism industry blossoming in the exurbs north and west of New York City; a new generation of diners are discovering places such as the Crystal Inn which offer a unique field-to-table experience; and

WHEREAS, Built in 1925, as a private residence, the Crystal Inn was situated on what was then known as Pine Island Turnpike; its illustrious heritage as a local gathering place began in 1945, when the home's residents sold the property to the operators of a farmland canteen known as Schwabes Bar; and

WHEREAS, In 1964, Benjamin Zygmunt purchased the building over the phone through a bank auction on Christmas Eve; and

WHEREAS, One year later, Benjamin Zygmunt's son, Gus, instituted a simple, hearty menu of burgers, homemade soups, and sandwiches at the newly rechristened Crystal Inn; this vital establishment created a

comfortable place for camaraderie and fellowship among the local population of farmers and producers; and

WHEREAS, In 1975, the chefs of the Crystal Inn began to offer homemade gourmet pizzas to their clientele; five years later, they refined their menu to reflect the rising popularity of both Italian and Mediterranean cuisine; and

WHEREAS, Fifteen years later, the bar room and dining rooms were reversed in order to accommodate more seating for the increasingly trendy dining cultural experience; and

WHEREAS, Continuing the family tradition, Ryan Zygmunt took to the helm as General Manager in 2002, bringing his passion for high quality, locally-produced ingredients to the tables of his customers; under his leadership, his chefs have helped to redefine and re-energize the Crystal Inn as a landmark culinary destination; and

WHEREAS, The Crystal Inn proudly serves vegetables, herbs and meat from local farms such as the Hudson Valley Cattle Company and Lowland Farm Beef; and

WHEREAS, Today, the Crystal Inn continues to provide exceptional service and superior cuisine; the entrees are designed around the finest, freshest locally produced ingredients which offer increased flavor, freshness, and quality, pleasing the palates of foodies from New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, and beyond; and

WHEREAS, It is with great pleasure that this Legislative Body acknowledges this exceptional business and its contributions to the local and State economies, fully confident that it will continue to enjoy the sparkling successes it has experienced thus far; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Crystal Inn, in Warwick, New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Ryan Zygmunt, General Manager, Crystal Inn.