

## 2015-J2879

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating Helen Bonner upon the occasion of celebrating her 100th Birthday

WHEREAS, Senior citizens bring a wealth of experience and knowledge to the increasingly active roles they play in today's society; their past contributions and future participation are a vital part of, and valuable asset to, the fabric of community life and activity; and

WHEREAS, Recently, Helen Bonner celebrated her 100th Birthday with her friends and family, as well as local officials and organizations; and

WHEREAS, Helen Bonner was born on May 21, 1915, in New York City; she was the ninth of 10 children and was always seen as the baby of the family; and

WHEREAS, On New Year's Eve of 1941, Helen Bonner married her husband George; in 1957, the couple bought a plot of land in New Cassel, building the home where she still resides; and

WHEREAS, Helen Bonner was employed as an inspector for Designs Power in Westbury, New York, and was involved with the Mercury Project; in 1977, she officially retired at the age of 62; and

WHEREAS, After retiring, Helen Bonner helped take care of her husband who suffered from Alzheimer's disease until he passed away in 1979; and

WHEREAS, This exceptional centenarian, with her zest for life, has inspired and enhanced the lives of her family and friends; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the last Century, Helen Bonner raised her daughter, was a devoted wife, traveled extensively, and played an active role in both the community and her local church; and

WHEREAS, In addition, she has enjoyed spending time at the Westbury Senior Center, where she took part in exercise and creative writing classes; she also loved tap dancing, a hobby she participated in until she was 85 years old; and

WHEREAS, Today, Helen Bonner likes to relax by spending her time watching tennis (Serena Williams is her favorite), reading, and doing light exercise; she attends the Town of North Hempstead's Funday Monday events, and is a longtime member of Bethel AME church; and

WHEREAS, 100 years young, Helen Bonner credits religion and her daughter Sharon's loving attention for her long and happy life; and

WHEREAS, This distinguished woman has experienced the incredible joys and sorrows characteristic of and reserved for those with the stamina and courage to savor a full life; and

WHEREAS, This beloved woman has enriched the lives of those around her through her joyous and sincere love for others and through the quiescent charm and wisdom which comes only from a fullness of years; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to publicly recognize those who have reached such a remarkable age and who have witnessed and celebrated the innovations, cultural developments and awesome achievements of this country during the last century, while themselves contributing to the growth and excellence of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate Helen Bonner upon the occasion of her 100th Birthday; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Helen Bonner.