

## 2015-J4138

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 90th Anniversary of the Corning Lions Club

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities across New York State are reflective of the concerned and dedicated efforts of those organizations and individuals who would devote themselves to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 90th Anniversary of the Corning Lions Club; and

WHEREAS, Chartered on February 25, 1926, the Corning Lions Club is part of Lions Clubs International, one of the largest service organizations in the world with 1.4 million members in 212 nations and geographic locations across the globe; and

WHEREAS, The goal of the Corning Lions Club and the entire Lions organization is to empower volunteers to serve their communities, meet humanitarian needs, encourage peace and promote international understanding; and

WHEREAS, Lions are recognized worldwide for their service to the blind and visually-impaired; this service began when Helen Keller challenged the Lions to become her "knights of the blind in the crusade against darkness" during the Lions' 1925 International Convention; and

WHEREAS, Since 1926, the Corning Lions Club has been assisting individuals, families, and community organizations in the Town of Corning and the surrounding areas; while the club provides public service in many forms, the primary mission of the Corning Lions Club is to provide assistance to individuals with vision and hearing disabilities; and

WHEREAS, For nine decades, the Corning Lions Club has focused its

energies on various community activities and organizations starting in 1926, when it assisted at a Girl Scout Summer Camp at Round Lake near Savona, New York; the club's good works continue today by providing scholarships to high school students, as well as sponsoring the Annual Easter Egg Hunt and the Kids Fun Day; and

WHEREAS, The Corning Lions Club is dedicated to helping individuals with vision and hearing disabilities by providing dog guides, collecting donated eyes for the eye bank, and assisting the Batavia School for the Blind; and

WHEREAS, In 1991, the Corning Lions Club was the recipient of a LCIF grant which was used to establish the Arthur P. Darling Low Vision Center; the Club also donated funds to provide eye exams and glasses for needy children and to equip an eye disease diagnosis and treatment room at the Health Ministry of the Southern Tier; and

WHEREAS, In 1992, the Corning Lions Club was named a Model Club for its fundraising efforts for Campaign SightFirst, a project to eradicate both curable and preventable blindness; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the years, the Corning Lions Club have helped man the Service Club Christmas Kettle Drive during the holidays, raising significant funds for the Salvation Army; and

WHEREAS, Dedicated to keeping their community clean, the Corning Lions Club have supplied numerous trashcans throughout the city; and

WHEREAS, Recently, this dynamic club developed a relationship with Watkins Glen International Race Track driving golf carts to help handicapped patrons around the track grounds during the IMSA and NASCAR events and the Annual WGI Wine Festival; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when organizations of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our atten-

tion, 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

commemorate the 90th Anniversary of the Corning Lions Club, and to commend its members, past and present, who have labored so conscientiously to secure and improve the quality of life in the community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Corning Lions Club.