

## 2015-K1403

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 100th Anniversary of Nortz and Virkler, Inc.

WHEREAS, It is the sense 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 businesses and individuals that are devoted to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, It is also the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend those who work to better their local community and work hard to keep a local tradition alive; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of Nortz and Virkler, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, This auspicious centennial will be celebrated during a two-day event in Lowville, New York; a classic car parade will roll through the Village on Thursday, June 2, 2016, and on Friday, June 3, 2016, visitors will be able to enjoy a vintage car show, live music and refreshments at the Ford dealership on State Street; and

WHEREAS, In 1916, Art Virkler started his business on a dusty dirt road better known today as South State Street in the tiny town of Lowville by selling a line of Fordson tractors; he parked a handful of the Fordson tractors along the road and worked his magic; subsequently, his tractor business grew so much he needed to hire more employees and a salesman; and

WHEREAS, Art Virkler hired 16-year-old Hank Nortz to be his salesman, and when he was in his early 20s, he became a partner and the business grew from there; and

WHEREAS, Stepping away in 1969, the Virkler family is no longer part

of the business; nonetheless, the Nortz family continues to use the name for both honor and recognition; and

WHEREAS, The dealership has been run successfully for 100 years by the same family; now three generations deep, Nortz and Virkler, Inc. is considered one of the oldest continuing Ford families in the state, and one of the oldest dealers in the country; and

WHEREAS, A representative from Ford will visit Lowville in June to help celebrate this century-old milestone, and the Nortz family will learn just where they fall on the scale as one of the oldest Ford dealerships in the United States and New York State; and

WHEREAS, Today, the Nortz family recently renovated their whole building and doubled the size of the service department and showroom which gives the dealership a lot of room for the most innovative truck that Ford has created, the new F150 Limited; and

WHEREAS, As Timothy, Rick, William, Bradley and Nicholas Nortz celebrate their 100th Anniversary, they look to the future by introducing new Ford products and continuing to service their loyal customers; in addition, they look forward to growing new customers to appreciate the same products and service that Central New Yorkers have enjoyed for 100 years; and

WHEREAS, The success of Nortz and Virkler, Inc. is possible because of the hard work and vision that started 100 years ago, and passed through the generations and onto the generations to come; and

WHEREAS, It is the practice of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the well-being and vitality of their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to excellence certainly have earned the recognition and applause of all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of Nortz and Virkler, Inc.; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Timothy O. Nortz and Nicholas W. Nortz, Nortz and Virkler, Inc.