

## 2017-K829

Assembly Resolution No. 829

BY: M. of A. Magee

COMMEMORATING the 100th Anniversary of the  
Earlville Free Library on February 17, 2018

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities across the great State of New York is reflective of certain exemplary institutions whose purpose is dedicated to serving the community and the needs of 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 100th Anniversary of the Earlville Free Library to be celebrated at a party on Saturday, February 17, 2018; and

WHEREAS, For 100 years, the Earlville Free Library has strived to serve its community; cultivate knowledge; promote curiosity; and inspire lifelong learning; and

WHEREAS, The Earlville Free Library is a member of the Mid-York Library System, a not-for-profit library system, which serves 43 public libraries in Madison, Oneida, and Herkimer counties; and

WHEREAS, Through the years, the Earlville Free Library has enjoyed great successes, accomplished numerous goals, and triumphed over

tragedy; and

WHEREAS, Today, the Earlville Free Library has a collection of over 20,000 items that patrons can borrow, ranging from adult fiction and nonfiction to children's books aimed at emergent readers; and

WHEREAS, The Earlville Free Library was formally opened to the public for the first time on February 18, 1918; patrons perused the books and magazines on the shelves and drank a cup of freshly brewed tea; on September 17, 1919, the library received its Provisional Charter; and

WHEREAS, On Easter of 1925, a fire raged through the Morgan Block where the library was kept; unfortunately, only a few hundred books were saved; and

WHEREAS, After renting rooms in the Cotton Laboratory, the library room in the new Village Hall was formally opened on February 5, 1926; one year later, the library's Absolute Charter was issued on February 17, 1927; and

WHEREAS, In January of 1966, the Library Board began to discuss ideas to enlarge the library, and in March of that year, the expansion project was started; and

WHEREAS, The grand opening of the new library was held on November 23, 1969; the 4,000 square foot library included a meeting room named the Edna Lamb Room, which would serve as a community social room; and

WHEREAS, As the library's circulation increased, four paid part-time staff positions were added in 1987; in January of 1988, the library began on-line computer booking services with the Mid-York Library

System; and

WHEREAS, In 1990, the librarian, Mrs. Wilcox, initiated special Christmas programs which lead to the annual Christmas decorating contest which has helped bring together the residents of Earlville during the holiday season; and

WHEREAS, At the turn of the century, the Gates Foundation provided the library with five new computers, and the Mid-York Foundation graciously renovated the old office room into the computer lab for the community; and

WHEREAS, In 2003, the Earlville Free Library was proudly named one of the top 10 libraries in the country serving towns with populations of 1,000 and under; one year later, the Library was once again recognized as one of the top 10 libraries in the country serving small populations; and

WHEREAS, The Earlville Free Library became the first library in the area to offer wireless internet for patrons bringing their own computers in 2005; and

WHEREAS, In 2009, the Earlville Free Library was the recipient of a grant for BOOKS for CHILDREN by the Libri Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Under the luminous leadership of Director Shari Taylor, the Earlville Free Library is governed and guided by a Board of Trustees composed of seven community members; the trustees serve as the liaison between the library and the public, establishing policies which are responsive to the community's needs; and

WHEREAS, Equally commendable are the Earlville Free Library's

superbly-skilled staff, whose involvement is and has always been characterized by an impressive commitment, an unbridled enthusiasm, and an uncompromising standard of excellence in all of their efforts on behalf of the library and the population it serves; and

WHEREAS, Steeped in a proud and distinguished history, the Earlville Free Library may take just pride in its purposeful growth, as it looks forward to continuing to serve the educational, cultural and intellectual needs of the community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Earlville Free Library on February 17, 2018; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Shari Taylor, Director, Earlville Free Library.