

## 2013-J601

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating Mary Buttita 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 a valuable asset to the fabric of community life and activity; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate Mary Buttita upon the occasion of celebrating her 100th Birthday with a dinner to be held on Saturday, March 2, 2013, at the Italian Heritage Club of the Mohawk Valley in Utica, New York; and

WHEREAS, Mary Buttita was born in her home in Utica, New York, to Addea and Joseph Deperno on March 4, 1913; she had six siblings; Rock, Joseph, Lawrence, Carmen, Betty (deceased) and John, the youngest, still living; and

WHEREAS, In 1934, Mary married the late Thomas Buttita Sr. and during their 66 years of marriage they raised four wonderful children; today, Mary enjoys the company of her five grand and great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Mary Buttita still spins many tales of her toils in the bean fields during the Great Depression when she and her husband, Thomas, struggled to keep the roof over the family's head, burdened with a mortgage and a sewing machine loan of a mere 25 cents a month; later, she recalls her employment at Sturdy Togs where she enjoyed her work as a seamstress and exudes a sense of pride in her position as shop steward; and

WHEREAS, In her younger years, Mary Buttita enjoyed visiting family around the country and abroad; many speak of her uncanny ability to always hold the winning hand in Pinochle and amazing ability to come out on top at the Friday night Pokeno games; and

WHEREAS, For the entirety of her century on earth, Mary Buttita has been a devout Roman Catholic and active member of her church; many patrons can still recall the aroma of her Pizza Fritte cooking in the basement kitchen of St. Agnes Church; her name lives on in legacy amongst the remaining members of her Alter Rosary Society and many

friends that accompanied her during Bingo nights at the Sons of Italy; her faith and moral guidance echoes through three generations of her living family; and

WHEREAS, Mary Buttita always has and always will love Sunday dinners and holidays with family and friends; and

WHEREAS, This exceptional centenarian with her zest for life, has inspired and enhanced the lives of her family and friends; experienced the incredible joys and sorrows characteristic of and reserved for those with the stamina and courage to savor life; 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 its deliberations to congratulate Mary Buttita upon the occasion of celebrating her 100th Birthday; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Mary Buttita.