

Assembly Resolution No. 280

BY: M. of A. Solages

HONORING Bernice E. Hayes posthumously upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition by the Floral Park Historical Society on April 28, 2019

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 honor Bernice E. Hayes posthumously upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition by the Floral Park Historical Society to be celebrated at its 20th Anniversary event on Sunday, April 28, 2019; and

WHEREAS, Born on January 17, 1929, Bernice E. Hayes was one of the founders of the Floral Park Historical Society (FPHS); and

WHEREAS, FPHS was established in late 1999 to increase knowledge of and interest in all subjects relating to Floral Park's history; and

WHEREAS, This vital society promotes historical research and educates village residents as to the history of Floral Park and preserves for posterity places, buildings, landmarks and objects of historical interest in Floral Park; and

WHEREAS, Since its inception, Bernice E. Hayes served as a member of the FPHS Board of Directors and as Vice President; for several years, she chaired the annual New Year Luncheon; and

WHEREAS, In an effort to spark public curiosity about the history of the Village of Floral Park, the members of FPHS embarked on an exciting but somewhat complex undertaking; they sought to install eight markers at historically-significant sites within Floral Park for residents and others to visit and learn interesting facts about the locations and to grow in their appreciation of the history of the community; and

WHEREAS, The Floral Park Historic marker sites include: 1779 House, Covert Homestead, Floral Theatre, First Floral Park School, Oldest Commercial Building, American Legion Hall, First Firehouse/Village Hall, and Masonic Temple; and

WHEREAS, In recognition of the years Bernice E. Hayes was active in the United Methodist Church of Floral Park, FPHS repainted the historic marker that stands in front of the church on Verbena Avenue; it is an historic site marking the location of the first church in Floral Park: the Methodist Episcopal Church, dedicated in 1891; and

WHEREAS, Bernice E. Hayes died on January 31, 2019, at the age of 90; in honor of her countless volunteer contributions making the society a viable and worthy community organization, FPHS has initiated the Bernice Hayes Collection; in this archival collection is a vintage Mayflower Catalog dated September 1891 from an anonymous donor in her memory and a 100th Anniversary Journal - United Methodist Church; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, 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 honor Bernice E. Hayes posthumously upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition by the Floral Park Historical Society; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Bernice E. Hayes.