

BY: M. of A. Buttenschon

CONGRATULATING Burton Jones upon the occasion of celebrating his 100th Birthday on February 1, 2021

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 valuable asset to, the fabric of community life and activity; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to commemorate and recognize certain milestones celebrated by citizens of this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate Burton Jones upon the occasion of celebrating his 100th Birthday on February 1, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Burton Jones was one of nine children born to May (Briggs) and Arthur Jones in Whitesboro, New York, where he worked in his father's shop, A.A. Jones Garage on Clinton Street; and

WHEREAS, After being drafted into the United States Army Air Corps, Burton Jones proudly served his country as a P-51 crew chief with the 457th Fighter Squadron on Iwo Jima during World War II providing protection to B-29 bombers executing missions against the Japan mainland; during this time, Sergeant Jones took great care to ensure the aircraft were well maintained for their long missions; and

WHEREAS, Upon being honorably discharged from the military with the rank of Staff Sergeant in early December of 1945, Burton Jones worked for 27 years at the Rome Air Depot, now known as Griffiss Air Base, in Rome, New York, first as a heavy equipment mechanic and later, as a Management Analyst setting time and safety standards for hundreds of specific mechanical jobs; and

WHEREAS, Burton Jones met the love of his life while working in Rome, and married Margaret "Peg" Jones on January 24, 1948, at the historic stone church Capel Cerrig, also called the Stone Meeting House, in Remsen, New York; after more than 50 years of marriage, she passed away in 1999; and

WHEREAS, Burton and Peg Jones settled near her family farm homestead on Jones Road in Remsen, and together, they had one son, Hugh, and two daughters, Priscilla and Wendy; a devoted family man, he loved to spend time with his children, eight grandchildren and great-grandson; and

WHEREAS, A hard worker with an exceptional mechanical mind, Burton Jones could build, fix or repair anything, and constructed his home by hand; he thoroughly enjoyed taking care of his house, and spent a great deal of time toiling in his well-kept gardens filled with beautiful flowers; and

WHEREAS, Devoted to his community and fellow veterans, Burton Jones is a member of both the Remsen United Methodist Church and VFW, a 32nd degree Mason and served for many years on the Board of Assessment Review for the Town of Remsen; and

WHEREAS, Burton Jones, with his zest for life, has inspired and enhanced the lives of his family and friends; and

WHEREAS, This exceptional centenarian has experienced the incredible joys and sorrows characteristic of and reserved for those with the stamina and courage to savor a full life; and

WHEREAS, Burton Jones has enriched the lives of those around him through his joyous and sincere love for others and through the quiescent charm and wisdom which comes only from a fullness of years; 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 in its deliberations to congratulate Burton Jones upon the occasion of celebrating his 100th Birthday; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Burton Jones.