

BY: Senator RHOADS

COMMEMORATING the 125th Anniversary of the Wantagh
Fire Department

WHEREAS, The brave firefighters of the Wantagh Fire Department are prepared to risk their lives every day to help save the lives of others and to protect homes and property from the destruction caused by fire; and

WHEREAS, In addition to the skill and devoted service demonstrated by individual firefighters, the Wantagh Fire Department reflects the history and development of firefighting over the past 125 years; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is proud to commemorate the 125th Anniversary of the Wantagh Fire Department and to honor its past and present firefighting members for 125 years of fire protection to the citizens of Wantagh, New York and its surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, Originally chartered as the Wantagh Hook Ladder and Engine Company No. 1 in 1899, the Wantagh Fire Department serves one of the largest Fire Districts in Nassau County, serving Wantagh, parts of Levittown, Seaford, East Meadow, Bellmore, as well as Jones Beach State Park and Tobay Beach; and

WHEREAS, Having responded to more than 2700 calls for emergency services within the last year, the Wantagh Fire Department readily answers Fire and EMS alarms, auto accidents, and other types of miscellaneous emergency calls; the Wantagh Fire Department has an Incident Management Team, Hazardous Materials Team and a Dive/Water Rescue Team, which works in conjunction with a 31-foot Fire/Rescue boat that provides emergency services for the many waterways within their Fire District; and

WHEREAS, Its members upholding the highest level of dedication, the Wantagh Fire Department has approximately 250 resolute men and women who volunteer their time and who respond to your needs 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year; in addition to emergency response, members train at a minimum of once a week to maintain their skills and also attend classes at the Nassau Fire Academy to keep proficient in the services that they provide; and

WHEREAS, Truly devoted to the community, the Wantagh Fire Department tirelessly plans Fire/Rescue and EMS leadership for the Bethpage Air Show, the July 4th Fireworks at Jones Beach, and many other special events that occur throughout they year; inspiring youth and the community, volunteers also educate residents and students through public outreach and Fire Prevention programs; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body cannot express sufficient gratitude to those devoted individuals who recognize that the preservation of life and property is a sacred responsibility and who make that responsibility

their own by serving as firefighters; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that we should give special recognition to those who work so assiduously for the betterment of their communities, and acknowledge publicly the heroic good works performed by the volunteer fire departments of this great Empire State, their officers and auxiliaries; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to proudly commemorate the 125th Anniversary of the Wantagh Fire Department; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Wantagh Fire Department.