

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending the Clifton Springs Hospital Auxiliary upon the occasion of its 50th Anniversary

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to commend those illustrious organizations within the State of New York whose focus and intent have made a substantial impact on the quality of life in their communities; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend the Clifton Springs Hospital Auxiliary upon the occasion of its 50th Anniversary celebrated at a reception on Monday, January 26, 2009, where more than 80 volunteers were honored for routinely giving of their time and talents to benefit patients of the Hospital and Nursing Home; and

WHEREAS, While Dr. B. A. Watson was superintendent of the Clifton Springs Hospital, he met with several enthusiastic women from Women's Auxiliaries in the City of Rochester; seeing the fine, dedicated work they accomplished for their hospitals, he knew an Auxiliary would be of great help to the Clifton Springs Hospital; and

WHEREAS, After speaking with Miss Gertrude Bates, Supervisor of Nursing, at the Clifton Springs Hospital, and others, he invited especially chosen women from the communities of Clifton Springs, Phelps, Shortsville, Orleans, and Seneca Castle to a conference at the local hospital on January 15, 1959; and

WHEREAS, Thirty-four women attended the conference and with the Chairman of the Regional Hospital Auxiliary and Miss Bates they quickly approved of forming an Auxiliary; a week and a half later, on January 26th, the group met again and officially formed the Auxiliary; and

WHEREAS, The following officers were elected: President -- Margaret Griswold (CS); Vice President -- Alice Bailey (Phelps); Recording Secretary -- Tory Brouwer (CS); Corresponding Secretary -- Esther Durkee (CS); Treasurer -- Rosalie Walters (CS 59 & 60) and also serving as Treasurer -- Edith Price (CS 60-61); and

WHEREAS, Two of the first projects undertaken by the Auxiliary included assisting with work in the Occupational Therapy Department and serving as a hostess group to provide tea daily; both groups attended classes and lectures as to procedures on working with and understanding patients; these volunteers were called "The Pink Ladies"; shortly thereafter, they picked and purchased pink smocks to wear when they were on duty; and

WHEREAS, By 1962, as projects expanded and membership grew, a total of 8,641 volunteer hours had been performed by the auxiliary's members; in March of 1963, The Candy Stripers, a young girls volunteer assistance group was formed; in May of 1963, President Jane Kahn was able to award the first 500 hour pins to six auxiliary members; and

WHEREAS, No one outside those who have worked for this dedicated group of ladies can know in full all the tasks they have performed and the contributions they have obtained to benefit the Clifton Springs Hospital and Clinic; and

WHEREAS, A few of the original members of the Auxiliary are still performing volunteer service today and a host of new members have been added to their rolls; their care and compassion are spread throughout the hospital; in the lobby you will find an information desk staffed by members of the auxiliary; upstairs in the Lobby Shop, they are behind the counter serving up everything from soup to a snack of your choice; and

WHEREAS, Today's remarkable group of volunteers is led by President -- Idelle Bowles; Vice President -- Margaret Mulford; Recording Secretary -- Donna Maskell; Corresponding Secretary -- Betty Baker; and Treasurer

-- Wilma Adams; and

WHEREAS, The success of the Clifton Springs Hospital Auxiliary throughout its distinguished history is in direct correlation to the efforts of its members, whose involvement is, and always has been, characterized by an impressive commitment, an unbridled enthusiasm, and an uncompromising standard of excellence in all endeavors on behalf of the Auxiliary and the population it serves; and

WHEREAS, Volunteerism is an essential element of all societies; it provides a way in which the human values of community, caring and serving can be sustained and strengthened; and

WHEREAS, Volunteerism promotes family and community solidarity; most importantly, people who volunteer their time in civic and charitable endeavors inspire others to the call of volunteerism; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to call attention to the dedicated efforts of those individuals from across the State of New York who volunteer their time and energies in service to the community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the Clifton Springs Hospital Auxiliary upon the occasion of its 50th Anniversary; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Clifton Springs Hospital Auxiliary.