

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating the Southern Cayuga Central School District upon the occasion of hosting its End of Year Celebration on June 12, 2014

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend institutions of true purpose and high achievement whose exemplary programs and accomplishments clearly demonstrate the pursuit of excellence in education and service to the community; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate the Southern Cayuga Central School District upon the occasion of hosting its End of Year Celebration featuring guest speaker Rhonda Fink Whitman author of 94 MAIDENS, on Thursday, June 12, 2014, at the Southern Cayuga High School Auditorium; and

WHEREAS, The Southern Cayuga Central School District is one of 11 United States sites with the honor and privilege of nurturing the Anne Frank horse chestnut sapling, a direct descendent of the tree that Anne Frank wrote about in her famous diaries during the Holocaust of the Second World War; and

WHEREAS, The mission of the Southern Cayuga Anne Frank Tree Project is to educate and empower children to use their thoughts, words, and deeds to promote understanding, tolerance, and justice in the world; and

WHEREAS, To this end the Anne Frank Tree will serve as a tangible symbol and reminder of the impact each human being can have in creating positive change, improving the quality of life for all members of the community and society, and in inspiring others; and

WHEREAS, This mission will be executed through the study of history with the intention of understanding our past, through the education of the school and community about social justice issues, and the recognition and promotion of student activism directed at creating a more just future; and

WHEREAS, The site for the Southern Cayuga Anne Frank Tree is layered with references and imagery; the hexagonal shape is the internal shape of the Star of David, and the use of cobblestone refers to the streets of Europe; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, surrounding the cobblestone are 11 boulders representing the number of Anne Frank Trees given to the United States; in addition to the use of specific materials and shapes, the dimensions of the site have been carefully considered, referencing the number 18 because of its significance in Jewish culture; and

WHEREAS, It is the practice of this Legislative Body that when institutions 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 congratulate the Southern Cayuga Central School District upon the occasion of hosting its End of Year Celebration on June 12, 2014; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Southern Cayuga Central School District.