BY: Senator JACOBS

**COMMENDING** Hofert Jewelers for 90 years of service to the community of Kenmore, New York

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize the achievements of those individuals and businesses which substantially contribute to the economic vitality of their communities and the entire Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Hofert Jewelers for 90 years of outstanding service to their community; and

WHEREAS, Truly the end of an era, the Hofert family devoted nine decades and four generations towards a store which has become a part of their life and history; and

WHEREAS, Hofert Jewelers opened in 1929, on Delaware Avenue, in the heart of Kenmore's central business district; this quaint shop opened to much fanfare, selling everything from wedding bands, engagement rings, watches, clocks, necklaces and gold chains; as well as high school rings, pewter and sterling silver plates and cups, marking the births of children, and high school graduations; and

WHEREAS, Herbert Hofert Sr. and partner, Ed Moeloth, opened and ran the shop together for many years; they met while working at a wholesale jewelry maker before striking out on their own; and

WHEREAS, Following the death of Ed Moeloth, Herbert Hofert Sr. passing the shop to his sons, Herbert Jr. and William; when they retired in the mid-1990s, Herbert III, known as Pepper, took over until his retirement in 2007; and

WHEREAS, William Hofert's son, Dominic Hofert took over the business, working with his wife, Susan, their daughter Natalie and son Andrew, until Dominic's untimely death in 2015; and

WHEREAS, A true staple in its community, Hofert Jewelers is quite possibly the oldest continuously operated business in Kenmore; and

WHEREAS, Hofert Jewelers have weathered many storms, from the Great Depression, to changes in fashion and taste, competition from national retailers and the internet, and the unexpected death nearly five years ago of the much beloved, Dominic Hofert; and

WHEREAS, Four generations of Hoferts have given tirelessly of their time, enthusiasm, and guidance to lift its community to the highest level possible; and

WHEREAS, It is with great pleasure that this Legislative Body

acknowledges this exceptional business and its contributions to the local and State economies, and appreciate their admirable character, and the respect and esteem in which they are held; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Hofert Jewlers and the Hofert family for 90 years of outstanding service to the community; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Hofert family.