

**BY:** Senator O'MARA

**COMMENDING** Sorge's Restaurant upon the occasion of celebrating its 70th Anniversary

**WHEREAS**, Within each community of this great State of New York there are certain businesses that define the nature of the region and the people who inhabit it; and

**WHEREAS**, Such is true of Sorge's Restaurant which has provided nourishment and employment for residents in Corning, New York, for 70 prosperous years; and

**WHEREAS**, This Legislative Body is proud to commend Sorge's Restaurant upon the occasion of its 70th Anniversary, to be celebrated at a Ribbon Re-cutting Ceremony on Friday, June 4, 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, On the occasion of Sorge's Restaurant's 60th Anniversary on June 4, 2011, the Guinness World Records recognized the restaurant for the creation of the longest egg noodle, which measured 525 feet; and

**WHEREAS**, Renato (Ronnie) Sorge and his brother, Remo, came to the United States from Italy in 1936; after 15 years of experience with local restaurants, Renato purchased property on 68 West Market Street, and on June 5, 1951, Sorge's Restaurant was born; and

**WHEREAS**, With authentic, well-prepared, reasonably priced meals by Renato Sorge and his wife, Loretta, Sorge's quickly became the area's finest Italian restaurant; and

**WHEREAS**, From its humble beginnings of 11 booths, Sorge's Restaurant expanded in 1962, with the purchase of the adjacent building; six years later, the upstairs of both buildings were converted into a dining room and banquet facility; and

**WHEREAS**, In 1973, Renato Sorge's two sons, Joseph and Michael, joined their father in the family business upon finishing their degrees in restaurant management; and

**WHEREAS**, Unfortunately, on December 27, 2008, Sorge's Restaurant sustained a devastating fire which destroyed the building; the landmark restaurant, then in business for 57 years, was demolished, leaving only the historic front facade standing; and

**WHEREAS**, During the months that followed, a rebuild effort began with much thought given to preserving the proud traditions and history that made the restaurant famous, with reconstruction of the restaurant beginning in October of 2009; and

**WHEREAS**, A major focus of the reconstruction has been to preserve and carry forward important pieces of Sorge's history, and blend them into a complete rebuild of the restaurant; these pieces of history can

be seen in the tile floor in the booth area that was replicated from the "old booth area," as well as the reproduction of the Al Valerio paintings which depicted Renato Sorge's home town of Strangolagalli, Italy; and

**WHEREAS,** In addition, the back-bar wall is framed with bricks taken from the interior of the building which was saved during the demolition, and recent photographs of Strangolagalli have been placed in various locations in the restaurant and in the menu; and

**WHEREAS,** For 70 fruitful years, the Sorge family and the employees of Sorge's Restaurant have brought an uncommon sense of quality and spirit to the community, providing the residents of Corning and Steuben County as a whole, not only with good food, but also with good old-fashioned memories to enjoy; and

**WHEREAS,** It is fitting that this Legislative Body recognize local businesses such as Sorge's Restaurant which have become institutions in the community, as well as the successful entrepreneurs who have nurtured them throughout the years; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Sorge's Restaurant upon the occasion of celebrating its 70th Anniversary, fully confident that it will continue to enjoy the same sparkling success and indomitable spirit which has so characterized its past; and be it further

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