

BY: Senator GRIFFO

COMMEMORATING the 100th Birthday of Charles Muth

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and honor those distinguished citizens who have reached the remarkable milestone of 100 years of age, whose longevity and accomplishments are a testament to their strength, character, and enduring contributions to their communities; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 100th Birthday of Charles Muth, to be celebrated on May 15, 2026; and

WHEREAS, Charles Muth was born on May 15, 1926, on his family's farm on Happy Valley Road in Verona, New York, the son of Charles A. and Emma (VanDeWalker) Muth; and

WHEREAS, Raised on the family farm known as Floral Hill, Charles Muth developed a strong work ethic at an early age, walking to school as a child and later riding a bicycle into Rome to work at a local canning factory, while continuing to assist his father with the dairy farm; and

WHEREAS, Floral Hill Farm, named for the vibrant gladiola flowers once grown and sold there, became a symbol of hard work and community connection, and Charles Muth continues that tradition today by growing flowers to share with his local Lutheran Church; and

WHEREAS, On June 11, 1949, Charles Muth met the love of his life, Alice A. Secor, at a Girl Scout party; their meeting sparked a lifelong partnership, and they were united in marriage on December 11, 1949, building a loving family together and raising five children; and

WHEREAS, A dedicated farmer, Charles Muth managed the demanding responsibilities of milking approximately 80 cows while also serving his community as the driver of School Bus No. 2; and

WHEREAS, In recognition of his agricultural excellence, he was honored as "Hay King" at the New York State Fair in the early 1950s; and

WHEREAS, Charles Muth was an active and engaged member of his community, serving as Treasurer for the Oneida Madison Co-op and as a Town Councilman for the Town of Verona for eight years; and

WHEREAS, A longtime member of the Farm Bureau, he remains among its oldest members and even participated in international travel with the organization, including a memorable trip to Spain; and

WHEREAS, Alongside his many responsibilities, Charles Muth found time to enjoy life's simple pleasures, including bowling with friends and vacations at Brantingham Lake, demonstrating a lifelong balance of

work, family, and fellowship; and

WHEREAS, After selling the family farm, Charles and his beloved wife Alice continued to build their life together, becoming seasonal residents in Florida until her health declined; he remained devoted to her care throughout her illness until her passing; and

WHEREAS, Even after experiencing a mild stroke in 2024, Charles Muth has remained active and independent, attending church weekly, playing bingo regularly, maintaining his household, and continuing to drive; and

WHEREAS, Today, he is lovingly cared for by his eldest daughter, reflecting the strong family bonds he helped cultivate throughout his life; and

WHEREAS, Having lived through a century of profound change, Charles Muth stands as a living witness to history and a model of resilience, dedication, and service; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to citizens of such enduring character and achievement, whose lives enrich the fabric of their communities and the State of New York; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 100th Birthday of Charles Muth, celebrating a century of life marked by hard work, devotion to family, and service to community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Charles Muth.