

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY
MOTION NO. _____

TITLE: Urging Action by New York State Legislators to Advance on Behalf of SUNY Community Colleges to Increase Funding to Community Colleges in the State Budget

AT THE REQUEST OF: Chairman Chagnon:

WHEREAS, SUNY's community colleges serve the largest percentage of low income, historically marginalized populations, and working adults of all SUNY sectors; and

WHEREAS, the state's direct tax support for SUNY's community colleges is lower than it was a decade ago, has not increased in three years, and has fallen behind the NY state counties' direct tax support to community colleges by \$97 million; and

WHEREAS, the community college sector trustees and presidents have advocated for New York State to meet its obligation to equally share its support of the community colleges with the counties; and

WHEREAS, increasing base operating aid by \$97 million will bring the state's share of direct state tax support for operating aid equal to that of New York's counties and support training 20,000 New Yorkers in high demand jobs through the Empire State Community College Workforce Guarantee; and

WHEREAS, despite these advocacy efforts the Governor's Executive Budget calls for no increase in base operating aid; and

WHEREAS, with no increase to base operating aid, community colleges will be unable to appropriately and substantially meet the workforce needs of New York State and Chautauqua County, particularly in healthcare, semi-conductor manufacturing, IT and regionally based industry sectors; and

WHEREAS, our county has faithfully carried out our fiduciary duties, therefore be it

KNOWN, that the Chautauqua County Legislature hereby urges New York State Legislators to advocate on behalf of the community college sector of SUNY by ensuring that NYS meets its fiduciary obligation to equally share its financial support of the community colleges with the counties by adding an additional \$97 million in operating base aid for the community colleges as requested; and let it be

MOVED, that the Chautauqua County Executive and Chairman of the Legislature are hereby authorized to forward advocacy letters to State Legislators concerning the same.

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY
MOTION NO. _____

TITLE: Proclaiming March Women’s History Month

AT THE REQUEST OF: Legislator Vanstrom:

WHEREAS, on March 3, 1913, thousands of women gathered in Washington, D.C. to call for a constitutional amendment guaranteeing women the right to vote, culminating in a parade up Pennsylvania Avenue consisting of over five thousand suffragettes, 20 parade floats, nine bands, and four mounted brigades; and

WHEREAS, American women of every culture, class, and ethnic background have made historic contributions to the growth and strength of our Nation in countless recorded and unrecorded ways; and

WHEREAS, American women have played and continue to play a critical economic, cultural, and social role in every sphere of the life of the Nation by constituting a significant portion of the labor force working inside and outside the home; and

WHEREAS, American women have played a unique role throughout the history of the Nation by providing a majority of the volunteer labor force of the Nation; and

WHEREAS, American women were particularly important in the establishment of early charitable, philanthropic, and cultural institutions in our Nation; and

WHEREAS, American women have been leaders, not only in securing their own rights of suffrage and equal opportunity, but also in the abolitionist movement, the emancipation movement, the labor movement, the civil rights movement, and in other causes which create a more fair and just society for all; and

WHEREAS, Chautauqua County remains committed to achieving equality for women and to ensuring their rights, freedoms, economic strengths, and opportunities for advancement in the workplace, as we remember women of the past and present who have influenced, thrived, and succeeded in all areas of professional endeavor; therefore be it

KNOWN, The Chautauqua County Legislature, with great pride, hereby proclaims March 2024 Women’s History Month in Chautauqua County; and let it be

MOVED, that the County Legislature urges all residents to proudly join to recognize the many women who have contributed and continue to contribute to our country and our local communities in countless recorded and unrecorded ways.

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY
MOTION NO. _____

TITLE: Proclaiming March 18th-22nd Agricultural Literacy Week in Chautauqua County

AT THE REQUEST OF: Legislators Proctor, Johnson:

WHEREAS, Agricultural Literacy Week in New York State is celebrated March 18th-22nd,

WHEREAS, in Chautauqua County over 40 volunteers from the agricultural community will read to elementary classrooms in an effort to increase Agricultural Literacy; and

WHEREAS, students and teachers will benefit from hands-on lessons and receive follow-up activities; and

WHEREAS, 40 books will be donated to school libraries in Chautauqua County for future reference and reading; and

WHEREAS, Agricultural Literacy Week in Chautauqua County is organized by Cornell Cooperative Extension of Chautauqua County's 4-H Youth Development Program; and

WHEREAS, as of the 2017 USDA Census of Agriculture, Chautauqua County ranks third in New York State for number of farms – with over 1200 farms that produce a total market value of agricultural products sold of over \$160 million, making agriculture the county's largest industry; and

WHEREAS, in Chautauqua County over 150 dairy farms produce enough milk to meet the dietary needs of nearly 800,000 people, 307 vineyards growing on 16,953 acres of grapes, and 62 Maple producers make over 37,000 gallons of maple syrup; and

WHEREAS, for every dollar of income created by the agricultural industry in Chautauqua County, \$2.29 is generated in the community; now, therefore

LET IT BE KNOWN, That the Chautauqua County Legislature, with great pride, hereby proclaims March 18th-22nd 2024 as Agricultural Literacy Week in Chautauqua County; and be it further

MOVED, That the Chautauqua County Legislature urges all residents to celebrate our county's rich agricultural heritage and recognize and appreciate agriculture as our largest industry.