DUTCHESS COUNTY LEGISLATURE

Commendation: Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW on Celebration of 100 Years of Service to Communities of Dutchess County

The Dutchess County Legislature offers the following and moves its adoption:

WHEREAS, founded in 1925, Poughkeepsie Branch of the American Association of University Women, Inc. (Poughkeepsie Branch) has been active in the areas of education, international understanding, community needs, the arts, and the status of women and is celebrating 100 years of service to the community, and

WHEREAS, from 1955 to 1957, the Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW was part of a group of organizations that laid the foundation for starting a local community college, and

WHEREAS, in 1975 the Poughkeepsie Branch on the 50th anniversary of the founding of the branch, eight women were honored for outstanding service to the residents of Dutchess County. Since that time an additional 44 women who were leaders in providing service to the citizens of Dutchess County were honored, and

WHEREAS, in 1987 the City of Poughkeepsie celebrated its 300th anniversary and AAUW produced a film, "A City on the Hudson" to highlight those years, and

WHEREAS, Poughkeepsie Branch sponsors several community service projects that benefit the community at large, and

WHEREAS, since 2004, Leading to Reading (LTR), a volunteer-run early literacy program, has donated and distributed more than 48,000 books to children from low- and moderate-income families throughout Dutchess County. LTR has also collaborated and received support from over 20 local organizations, and

WHEREAS, in 2017 The Days for Girls Poughkeepsie NY team was established to provide sustainable feminine hygiene kits for women and girls who live in developing countries, refugee camps and for those who experience period-poverty in the USA, including Dutchess County. To date, over 600 kits have been provided internationally and locally, and

WHEREAS, Extending Girls' Horizons offers a variety of stand-alone monthly events and short event series in leadership development and S.T.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) to girls in grades 6-12 throughout Dutchess County and surrounding area, and

WHEREAS, Court Watch seeks to promote greater accountability by observing judges, prosecutors, law enforcement, and other justice system personnel and to share these findings with members of the judicial system and the community in order to keep victims safe, bring about improvements in the courts, and to promote fair and equal justice for all. Court Watch partnered with the Fund for Modern Courts in 2016, collaborating for 18 months attempting to make improvements in the court system. The report from this collaboration resulted in the presentation of the Samuel J. Duboff Memorial Award for outstanding contributions by non-lawyer volunteers in improving the New York State Courts to Poughkeepsie Branch of the AAUW Court Watch Initiative, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Dutchess County Legislature, on behalf of all the people of Dutchess County, does hereby congratulate and commend Poughkeepsie Branch AAUW and their many programs, in their current mission to help educate, offer community services, and enlighten our youth for a positive future in Dutchess County.

Resolution No. 2025126

STATE OF NEW YORK ss:
COUNTY OF DUTCHESS

This is to certify that I, the undersigned Clerk of the Legislature of the County of Dutchess, have compared the foregoing resolution with the original resolution now on file in the office of said clerk, and which was adopted by said Legislature on the 11th day of August 2025, and that the same is a true and correct transcript of said original resolution and of the whole thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of said Legislature this 11th day of August 2025

HEIGH WAGER, CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE