

PROCLAMATION

Whereas, in 1866, at the end of the Civil War when this country was deeply divided, President Andrew Johnson sent a member of his Agriculture Department, Oliver H. Kelly to the South to report back on the condition of agriculture in the South, and

Whereas Kelly, though a Yankee, realized that he could have cordial and productive conversations with farmers as long as he only discussed farming and did not stray into politics, and

Whereas, in 1867 with the hope of creating a non-partisan organization to bring people together and represent the rights of farmers Kelly founded the Order of the Patrons of Husbandry, which was later known as the National Grange and which has since its founding played an important role in supporting farmers rights and women's suffrage, and advocating for those living in rural communities since its inception, and

Whereas on October 17, 1902, sixty three Copake residents met to discuss the establishment of a Copake Grange and on October 24, 1902 at the first official Grange meeting, over 80 charter members were initiated as members of the new **Copake Grange No. 935**, and

Whereas, at an early meeting the Grange voted to build a Grange Hall and the Grange Hall was built for \$2400 and the first meeting was held in the new Grange Hall on September 9, 1903, and

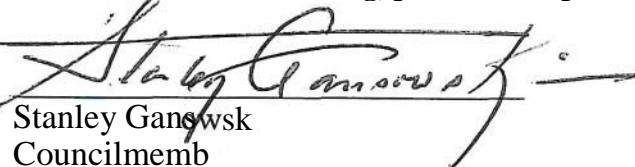
Whereas, throughout the 20th Century the Copake Grange played a vital role in Copake, by maintaining a public library, sponsoring the Farm Bureau, and the Copake Fire Department, and later supporting war efforts in the First and Second World Wars, and


Whereas, by the early 21st century the membership of the Copake Grange had dwindled so that there was fear that the NYS Grange would reclaim the Grange Hall, but residents of Copake stepped up to join and revitalize this important civic organization, and

Whereas, the Copake Grange now has 135 members and is the only Grange in Columbia County with its own building and is the largest, most active civic organization in the Roe Jan Area, and

Whereas, the Copake Grange Hall is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and the members of the Copake Grange are working to preserve and restore this important landmark,

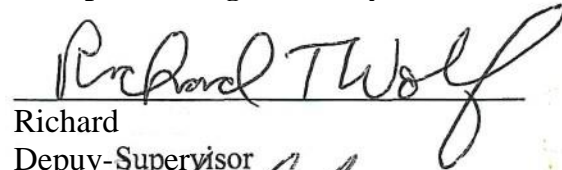
NOW THEREFORE, the Town Board of the Town of Copake congratulates Copake Grange #935 on its important role in the history of Copake and its current role as a vital civic organization and in honor of the anniversary of its founding, proclaims September 9, 2023 as Copake Grange #935 Day in the Town of

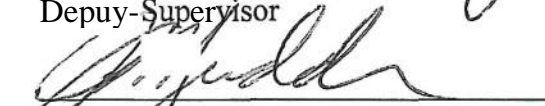

Stanley Ganswsk
Councilmemb

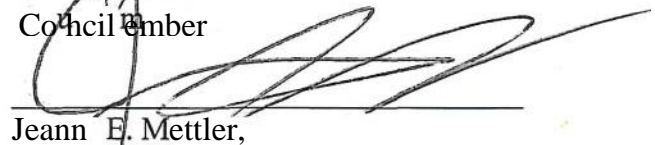

Terry Sullivan
Councilmemb

Dated: August 12, 2023
Copake, New York




Richard
Depuy-Supervisor


Jeffrey D.
Council Member


Jeann E. Mettler,