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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The Village of Harwood Heights will celebrate the
3 sixtieth anniversary of incorporation on November 4, 2007; and

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WHEREAS, In the fall of 1947 a vote was taken and 350 votes
5 were cast for incorporation, and the Village of Harwood Heights
6 came to life; and

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WHEREAS, The name Harwood came from a combination of "Har"
8 for Harlem Avenue and the "wood" from Norwood Park Township, in
9 which the Village is located; "Heights" was added in reference
10 to the highest point in the Village which is located at Harlem
11 and Foster Avenues; and

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WHEREAS, The first Mayor was Herbert Huening; the original
13 area incorporated only consisted of four square blocks from
14 Harlem Avenue to Oketo Avenue and Foster Avenue to Ainslie
15 Avenue; and

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WHEREAS, In 1958 additional areas were annexed, and in
17 1961, new sidewalks, new street signs, water and sewer lines,
18 and the paving of streets improved the Village; and

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WHEREAS, In 1973 Ray Willas was elected Mayor and was the
20 longest serving Mayor, retiring in 2001; and

1 WHEREAS, Harwood Heights is known as an island in the city,
2 surrounded by the City of Chicago; the Village has a prosperous
3 business district, provides a low tax rate for its citizens,
4 and provides many programs for its people; there are programs
5 such as the Free Dial A Bus, door-to-door service, I Live
6 Alone, Neighborhood Watch, Officer Friendly, DARE, computer
7 training, and many sports programs that can be enjoyed by both
8 young and old; there are also programs for persons with
9 disabilities sponsored through the West Suburban Special
10 Recreation Association; and

11 WHEREAS, The Village motto is "Serving People with Pride";
12 the Village of Harwood Heights has proudly lived up to this
13 motto since 1947; and

14 WHEREAS, Harwood Heights is beginning a redevelopment
15 stage and many homes are being rebuilt; industry is changing to
16 mixed uses, and new improvements include the Lawrence Avenue
17 Streetscape Project, where improvements will foster the
18 creation of a vibrant commercial and pedestrian corridor,
19 generating additional sources of tax revenue and decreasing the
20 tax burden on local homeowners; additional parking,
21 landscaping, lighting, and sidewalk improvements will also be
22 included; and

1 WHEREAS, Harwood Heights is also known as "the small town
2 of big opportunities", due to it's continual revitalization and
3 it's proximity to Chicago, the suburbs, the airport, the
4 expressways, and to public transportation; and

5 WHEREAS, In January 2000, current Mayor Margaret Fuller
6 formed the Harwood Heights Historical Committee, whose purpose
7 is to preserve and protect the history of the Village for years
8 to come; therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
10 NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
11 congratulate the people of the Village of Harwood Heights as
12 they celebrate sixty years of incorporation; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
14 presented to Mayor Margaret Fuller as a symbol of our respect.