

# PROCLAMATION

## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

**WHEREAS**, Senator James L. Seward's two decades plus of service as a state senator cap a lifelong interest in politics, public affairs, and state government. A native of Otsego County, Senator Seward attended Oneonta public schools and graduated from Hartwick College with a B.A. degree in political science. He also studied at the Nelson Rockefeller Institute of SUNY Albany. In 1999, Hartwick College honored Senator Seward with an honorary Doctor of Laws degree.

**WHEREAS**, Senator Seward was elected to the state senate in 1986. Today, Senator Seward serves as ranking Republican of the Insurance Committee and is active on committees for Agriculture, Education, Finance, Higher Education, and Rules.

**WHEREAS**, Responsiveness to his constituents is one of Senator Seward's strengths and his highest priority. He has been recognized for his advocacy and responsiveness by the Farm Bureau, the American Red Cross, local chambers of commerce and many community organizations.

**WHEREAS**, Senator Seward has continually demonstrated strong support for vital health care initiatives, particularly those that focus on children. He has been an advocate for school based health centers and supported the recent Child Health Plus expansion, greatly expanding eligibility guidelines. Over the years he has worked to promote the state's public health care programs ensuring that eligible individuals enroll in the many offerings provided.

**WHEREAS**, Senator Seward has been involved in local efforts to expand health care options for the children of Cortland County. He initiated a legislative member item for funding for Family Health Network's Groton Avenue Dental Clinic, which serves uninsured and underinsured people of all ages with preventive dental care and treatment essential to overall health and well-being.

**WHEREAS**, Senator Seward procured additional funding for the SUNY Construction Fund, so that the new SUNY child care center could be integrated into the Education Building expansion project. We also recognize his commitment to obtaining member items, which make child care affordable for working families in our community.

Now, therefore, I, Susan Feiszli, Mayor of the City of Cortland, do hereby proclaim February 25, 2010 to be Senator James L. Seward Day in Cortland, and urge all citizens of Cortland County to recognize his efforts to improve and enhance the lives of all by promoting the common good. Your commitment to the hard working men and women of Cortland County is commendable, and we thank you for all that you have done and for all that you continue to do. Dated this 25<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2010.