

PROCLAMATION

Office of the Mayor

City of Oneida, Madison County, New York State

WHEREAS, Karen Litwak is being honored with the 2015 Status of Women Award by the Zonta Club of the Oneida area, **and**

WHEREAS, Karen has been cited for this Award for making a difference through her own life by supporting, mentoring and sharing a better quality of life for others, especially women and girls through her career, family, and community activities, **and**

WHEREAS, Karen initiated her nursing career after high school graduation earning her Associate's Degree from Upstate Medical Center, and after a few years off to raise her two children, she returned to SUNY IT earning a BS in nursing and advancing to earn her Masters with a major in Nurse Practitioner, leading to her position at the Upstate Medical University Regional Oncology Center, **and**

WHEREAS, in 2004 Karen facilitated several Oneida area Cancer Support Groups, including the "I Can Cope Support Group" to help cancer patients and survivors to thrive during and after diagnosis; she provided leadership, as she co-chaired the "Oneida Area Relay for Life" for many years; and was Chairman of the American Cancer Society's Prevention Study held at the relay in 2007, **and**

WHEREAS, because of Karen's resolute in the fight against cancer, Karen was selected by the American Cancer Society, as one this areas Ambassadors and traveled to Washington, DC in 2006 to lobby Congress for additional funding for cancer research and treatments, **and**

WHEREAS, Karen was duly honored to be nominated for "Oncology Nurse of the Year" with her essay, selected from thousands submitted, being published in the "Extraordinary Healers" book, which details her journey of commitment and devotion to improving the lives of cancer patients, especially women, **and**

WHEREAS, Karen Litwak's life is steeped in her values of love and respect for her family, friends and patients.... she has proven herself through word and deed to be an outstanding citizen... dedicated to this community... and a faithful advocate to those affected by cancer, **now therefore**

I, ALDEN MAXWELL SMITH, MAYOR of the City of Oneida, do hereby proclaim Wednesday, March 18, 2015 as

"KAREN LITWAK DAY"

in the City of Oneida and urge our citizens to recognize Karen's outstanding accomplishments, service and advocacy in promoting the advancement of girl's and women's roles in her family, career, and our greater community.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Oneida, New York to be affixed this 18th day of March, 2015.

ALDEN M. SMITH, MAYOR