

2011-K1618

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 110th Anniversary of the landing of Alexander and John Piekarski and Casimira and Stephanie Kwiatkowski in New York to be celebrated August 5, 2012

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to commemorate events of significance which exemplify the strength of family and heritage; and

WHEREAS, The past and present members of the Piekarski Clan represent that spirit and are proud to celebrate the beliefs and family commitment they value so much; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 110th Anniversary of the landing of Alexander and John Piekarski and Casimira and Stephanie Kwiatkowski in New York, to be celebrated with a Family Reunion on Sunday, August 5, 2012, at Reis Park, Lincolndale, New York, with approximately 200 family members in attendance; and

WHEREAS, In October of 1912, two Piekarski brothers and two Kwiatkowski sisters arrived in New York City from Poland; they settled in Yonkers and here, Alexander Piekarski married Casimira Kwiatkowski, and John Piekarski married Stephanie Kwiatkowski; and

WHEREAS, The first family settled in the area of Yonkers, while the second family settled in the Scarsdale area; they immediately set to work in their new country doing whatever they could to better their own circumstances and raise their large families; and

WHEREAS, As their children became educated, they found their way into other communities and began to raise their own families; they became "Americanized" and used their gifts and talents to help in the development of New York State, particularly along the Hudson and Mohawk Rivers, from New York City to Schenectady; and

WHEREAS, Though a number of the first generation Piekarskis have already been laid to rest, their descendants continue to live and work

in New York, and contribute to its well-being; and

WHEREAS, They were all down to earth individuals, laboring tirelessly in the carpet factory in Yonkers, at the sugar house in Yonkers, and Niagara Mohawk in the Albany area; and

WHEREAS, They became involved in many kinds of activities including, education, healthcare, politics, the U.S. Postal Service, communication, construction, road work, agriculture, and asbestos and mold removal; and

WHEREAS, Many have served their country as members of the United States military, and even today, continue to serve, particularly during World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, Desert Storm, and Afghanistan; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Alexander Piekarski made the ultimate sacrifice fighting for his country during the end of World War II in Normandy, and is buried in the Military Cemetery in St. Lo, France; and

WHEREAS, Regardless of the field of their activity, all of them have contributed to the betterment of the State of New York; Alexander and Casimira Piekarski proudly displayed their World War II Blue Star banner which included five stars for their sons serving in the military: Francis, John Benjamin, Alexander, Thaddeus and Stanley; with joy, two of the surviving brothers will be present at this year's Family Reunion; and

WHEREAS, In subsequent generations, the Piekarski Clan has had a total of three family members graduate from military academies, including David Majdanski USMA 1981, Robert John Milan USMA 1999, and Ryan Baker USAFA 2006; in addition, Alexandra Marion Baker will be the fourth, who is part of the USMA class of 2016; and

WHEREAS, Currently serving their country as members of the United States Navy are Bruce P. Jazwinski and Lindsey Jazwinski; and

WHEREAS, As the Piekarski Family comes together for this memorable Reunion in testament to the bond of family unity, it honors its illustrative past, its proud heritage, and its promising future; now, there-

fore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 110th Anniversary of the landing of Alexander and John Piekarski and Casimira and Stephanie Kwiatkowski in New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Piekarski Family.