

2015-J2730

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War and paying tribute to the late Stephen Crane, renowned author and former resident of Port Jervis, New York, on June 20, 2015

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to commend the efforts of those organizations which seek to bring recognition to historical places within the State of New York, and in doing so, help to ensure that the complete history of our State and Nation is preserved and shared with present generations of citizens; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War and pay tribute to the late Stephen Crane, renowned author and former resident of Port Jervis, New York, to be celebrated on Saturday, June 20, 2015; and

WHEREAS, Organized by the Port Jervis Tourism Board and the Minisink Historical Society, Stephen Crane's THE RED BADGE OF COURAGE, A Living Memorial, will be presented on June 20, 2015, in Orange Square Park, Port Jervis, New York; and

WHEREAS, A young Stephen Crane, the son of a Methodist Minister, would later go on to write a book called THE RED BADGE OF COURAGE which depicted the life of what a Civil War battle might be like; it is said that the young author may have absorbed the tales told by men who fought in the 124th Regiment, also known as the Orange Blossoms, and years later came back to interview them; and

WHEREAS, Published in 1895, THE RED BADGE OF COURAGE, is considered one of the best books dealing with the Civil War to this day; the author's fictitious 304th New York Regiment, according to historian Charles LaRocca, mirrors that of the 124th Regiment; and

WHEREAS, Stephen Crane's THE RED BADGE OF COURAGE, A Living Memorial

will be held on June 20, 2015, in several locations such as Veterans Park (Orange Square), the Presbyterian Church Marsh Hall, and Drew Methodist Church; and

WHEREAS, This occasion, the first of its kind, will bring back life to Port Jervis, New York, as if it were the late 1800s, when Civil War veterans gathered to converse about the war in Orange Square Park; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the day, various events, including the showing of the movie THE RED BADGE OF COURAGE, Civil War re-enactors, Broome Street Fife and Drum Corps, and continual Bus Tours to the Civil War burial sites at Laurel Grove Cemetery narrated by Peter Osborne, as well as historical displays by the Minisink Historical Society, Town of Deerpark Museum, Matamoras-Westfall Historical Society, Montague Association for the Restoration of Community History, Pike County Historical Society, and Gray Parker Funeral Home, will be offered to educate and entertain history buffs and residents of not only Port Jervis, but residents of Orange County and the entire State of New York; and

WHEREAS, In addition, a display of authentic Civil War period clothing will be on display from the collection of Juanita Leisch Jensen, and lectures on several topics will be presented to the public; and

WHEREAS, Sutlers will be available to sell their wares, and there will be demonstrations featuring blacksmiths, horses, and cannons; furthermore, there will also be a "SELFIE" corner so you can dress in Civil War period hats and costumes and take your own photos; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is pleased to have this opportunity to express its highest admiration for Stephen Crane's THE RED BADGE OF COURAGE, A Living Memorial, and for all of the individuals who have worked to bring proper attention to a place and time which merits recog-

nition in the grand panorama of the history of our State and Nation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War and pay tribute to

the late Stephen Crane, renowned author and former resident of Port Jervis, New York, on June 20, 2015; and be it further
RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Port Jervis Tourism Board and the Minisink Historical Society.