

2015-J2922

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring the World War II veterans of Amityville, New York upon the occasion of being named Grand Marshals of the Village's 2015 Independence Day Parade

WHEREAS, Members of the Armed Services from the State of New York, who have served so valiantly and honorably in wars in which this country's freedom was at stake, as well as in the preservation of peace in peacetime, deserve a special salute from this Legislative Body; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to commend those who have served in times of active conflict, as well as to those who have served in times of peace; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor the World War II veterans of Amityville, New York upon the occasion of being named Grand Marshals of the Village's 2015 Independence Day Parade on Saturday, July 4, 2015; the theme of this year's parade is "The Greatest Generation"; and

WHEREAS, The 2015 Grand Marshals include Amityville World War II veterans: Wilbur Sterling, Pat C. Cammaroto, Lou Howard, William T. Lauder, Charles Woodman, Albert D'Andrea, Daniel Noble, Emil DiPaola, Thomas Greene, Jr., Elijah McKelvin, Owen E. Brooks, Joseph Washenko, George D. Johnson, Ms. Audrey L. Whitaker, James E. Stephens, Robert L. Serling, and Fred Watson; and

WHEREAS, World War II started on September 1, 1939, with the invasion of Poland and lasted six years, ending with the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki on V-J Day in August of 1945; and

WHEREAS, May 8, 2015 marks the 70th Anniversary of Victory in Europe Day, or V-E Day; on this date in 1945, Germany signed the terms of surrender in what historians have referred to as the deadliest conflict in human history; and

WHEREAS, The name "Greatest Generation" is a term first used by Tom Brokaw in his book of the same name to describe the men and women who both endured the Great Depression and successfully fought against tyranny and oppression during World War II; and

WHEREAS, A distinguished grouping of Americans who changed the face of

world history, these men and women have been described as a people united by a common purpose, but also the common values of duty, honor, economy, courage, service, love of family and country and, above all, responsibility for oneself; and

WHEREAS, Residents of this great State must never forget the courage with which these men and women served their country, and must recognize that no greater debt is owed than that owed to those who gave their lives for their beloved Nation and to those who continue to be missing in action; and

WHEREAS, Having exhibited their patriotism both at home and abroad, these men and women demonstrated their love for their country and merit forevermore, the highest respect of their State and Nation; and

WHEREAS, Our Nation's veterans deserve to be recognized, commended and thanked by the people of the State of New York for their service and for their dedication to their communities, their State and their Nation; and

WHEREAS, The Amityville World War II veterans are a fitting choice as Grand Marshals of the Village's 2015 Independence Day Parade, for they embody the spirit and the cherished ideals and values of this great State and Nation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor the World War II veterans of Amityville, New York upon the occasion of being named Grand Marshals of the Village's 2015 Independence Day Parade; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Amityville Independence Day Parade Committee, and the aforementioned Grand Marshals.