

2015-J6096

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the Norfolk Volunteer Fire Department

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is proud to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Norfolk Volunteer Fire Department and to honor its past and present firefighting members for 100 years of fire protection to the citizens of Norfolk, New York, and its surrounding communities; and
WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, it is the sense of this Legislative Body to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Norfolk Volunteer Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, The members of the Norfolk Volunteer Fire Department and the entire community of Norfolk will come together to celebrate this auspicious occasion with a series of events throughout 2016; the first activity will be an inaugural Mud Run on July 16, 2016, at the Fireman's Field in downtown Norfolk; and

WHEREAS, The Mud Run is a 5K obstacle course for all ages which features more than a dozen obstacles and pits including some with a firefighter theme; and

WHEREAS, Fire departments are an integral part of community protection services in every locality of our State; during the past 100 years, the courageous and devoted firefighters of the Norfolk Volunteer Fire Department have valiantly responded to all types of fire emergencies and have won the praise and respect of the community which they serve; and

WHEREAS, On March 31, 1915, a fire in downtown Norfolk claimed four lives and destroyed much of the business district; one year later, the Norfolk Volunteer Fire Department was founded; and

WHEREAS, When the Norfolk Volunteer Fire Department was formed, it had an active membership of 40 members, a single dry main firefighting

system and it operated from a single station located on Furnace Street;
and

WHEREAS, Today, the Norfolk Volunteer Fire Department stands at 75 active members, operates eight major pieces of apparatus and operates out of three stations with additional stations in Raymondville and on State Route 420; and

WHEREAS, In March of 1918, fire destroyed the station located on Furnace Street; fire also destroyed the station located on State Route 420 in November of 1996; both were rebuilt; and

WHEREAS, With a membership of dedicated firefighters, the record of the Norfolk Volunteer Fire Department in public service and fire protection is one to be envied; for 24 hours a day, for 365 days a year, for 100 years, whenever the alarm sounded, these noble volunteers left their homes and went to the aid of their neighbors; and

WHEREAS, Today, under the luminous leadership of Chief Richard Bump, the brave firefighters of the Norfolk Volunteer Fire Department are prepared to risk their lives every day to help save the lives of others and to protect homes and property from the destruction caused by fire; and

WHEREAS, In addition to the skill and devoted service demonstrated by individual firefighters, the Norfolk Volunteer Fire Department reflects the history and development of firefighting over the past 100 years; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body cannot express sufficient gratitude to those devoted individuals who recognize that the preservation of life and property is a sacred responsibility and who make that responsibility their own by serving as firefighters; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that we should give special recognition to those who work so assiduously for the betterment

of their communities, and acknowledge publicly the heroic good works performed by the volunteer fire departments of this great Empire State, their officers and auxiliaries; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to proudly commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Norfolk Volunteer Fire Department; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Richard Bump, Chief, Norfolk Volunteer Fire Department.