

2015-J6266

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 20th Anniversary of the Smithfield Eaton Volunteer Ambulance Corp.

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to those organizations within the State of New York which provide vital emergency medical rescue services; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 20th Anniversary of the Smithfield Eaton Volunteer Ambulance Corp. to be celebrated on September 17, 2016; and

WHEREAS, It all began with a demonstrated need and an idea to preserve the continuity of delivery of pre-hospital emergent care in the Morrisville-Smithfield community in January of 1996; a group of concerned citizens lead by Margaret Brody and Jeff Mitchell presented what they thought would be a good solution to the Village Board meeting in February of 1996; and

WHEREAS, Not only did they intend to start a rescue squad but they already had a list of 35 people who had pledged their help; the rescue squad was to be named SEVAC and a Board of Directors soon emerged to take on the planning and administrative duties; and

WHEREAS, The founding Board of Directors included: Paul Schiffer, Esther Way, Anthony Zazzara, Karen Gay, Elaine Gray, Sue Polisse, and James McFarland; and

WHEREAS, Many events soon followed in rapid successions with the dedicated help of many to make this dream a reality; the work had begun on the very important Certificate of Need with Margaret Brody and Terri Gallerani as the main players; and

WHEREAS, Clarence Holbert fronted a significant monetary gift promise so the financial viability could be assured to qualify for the Certif-

icate of Need; the Village of Morrisville leased the ambulance to SEVAC for the sum of one dollar and the Fire Department sold them the equipment to start; again Clarence Holbert stepped up to buy their first radio so the squad could communicate with the hospitals; and WHEREAS, The Village donated a place in the Village Barn for the ambulance and Jim Dutcher donated a trailer to house the crew; with the ambulance and crew ready, SEVAC's first call was answered on August 1, 1996; and

WHEREAS, The first crew was composed of Fred Brooks, Marty Eiholzer, Jeff Mitchell and Kathy Parker; the following winter was quite cold and with the help of a donated space heater, the crews were kept in meager comfort; the drugs were carried in the ambulance and had to be kept in a refrigerator so they would not freeze; and

WHEREAS, SEVAC soon outgrew the crew facilities and set about to build a bigger place; a fund drive was undertaken and letters were sent out by Connie Shepard, Margaret Brody and Catherine Holbert to nearly everyone in the community explaining their plight and asking for help; the response was quite heartening; and

WHEREAS, The SEVAC barn was becoming a reality; many members and members of the community contributed their time and talents to finish the interior of the "pole barn"; after one of the many more application processes, SEVAC was granted a Certificate of Occupancy and moved into their brand new home; and

WHEREAS, All of the individuals involved with SEVAC, past and present, are deserving of the highest commendation for their contributions to the noble missions of this life-saving organization; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when organizations of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our atten-

tion, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to

commemorate the 20th Anniversary of the Smithfield Eaton Volunteer Ambulance Corp.; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Smithfield Eaton Volunteer Ambulance Corp.