

2017-J780

Senate Resolution No. 780

BY: Senator PHILLIPS

COMMEMORATING the 100th Anniversary of Pierce
Country Day Camp

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to recognize and honor those esteemed organizations that provide significant opportunities for fellowship and outdoor activities for young people in this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, A leader in its industry and nationally- renowned for its dedication to youth development, Pierce Country Day Camp is one of the oldest and best day camps in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of Pierce Country Day Camp; this auspicious event will be celebrated in July of 2017, when camp owner-director, Will Pierce, braves the dramatic jump through the annual hoop of fire into a swimming pool; and

WHEREAS, In 1918, Pierce Country Day Camp was launched by Forester "Pop" Pierce in Deal, New Jersey; shortly thereafter, he moved the camp to rented property in Nassau County, New York, where he purchased an estate in Roslyn; there, he gave the camp its permanent home in the 1930s; and

WHEREAS, Since its inception, four generations of Pierces have been involved in running the Day Camp; from its humble beginnings, Pierce Country Day Camp has grown to more than 900 campers aged 3 to 13 in attendance each year; and

WHEREAS, Currently, Will Pierce runs the operations with his cousin Courtney, as well as three members of what they refer to as Generation Three, Doug, Greg, and Forrester III; and

WHEREAS, Over the years, many moments of wholesome fun ensued; in 1943, Yankee baseball legend Babe Ruth visited the camp; during the summer of 1992, the camp buried a time capsule in honor of its 75th Anniversary, which they will dig up this July; and

WHEREAS, In the summer of 2014, five current owner-directors participated in the Ice Bucket Challenge in front of the Entire Camp; and

WHEREAS, One of the prominent themes of Pierce Country Day Camp is a Native American theme; camp photos through the years show the Pierce men in feathered headdresses and women in Native American dress at traditional camp Pow Wows; and

WHEREAS, Known as one of the biggest camps on Long Island, Pierce Country Day Camp maintains state-of-the-art facilities; in 2016, the camp added an enormous treehouse called Treemendous and an outdoor musical playground dubbed Musical Rhapsody which includes a piano, xylophone and more; and

WHEREAS, Pierce Country Day Camp tries to keep a balance between maintaining the spirit of old-fashioned camp days and meeting the

demands of providing a modern camp; the camp has added a STEM program as well as a theater program, to suit the interests of the children; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the years, the Pierce Country Day Camp has provided an invaluable experience to many young people as well as increase athletic abilities, expand creativity and develop new interests; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of Pierce Country Day Camp in Roslyn, New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Will Pierce, Camp Owner-Director, Pierce Country Day Camp.