

## **2019-J1660**

Senate Resolution No. 1660

BY: Senator GRIFFO

COMMEMORATING the 75th Anniversary of the  
Westmoreland Fire Department celebrated on May 3,  
2019

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is proud to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Westmoreland Fire Department on Friday, May 3, 2019, and to honor its past and present firefighting members for 75 years of fire protection to the citizens of Westmoreland, New York, and its surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, Fire departments are an integral part of community protection services in every locality of our State; during the past 75 years, the courageous and devoted firefighters of Westmoreland 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, With a membership of dedicated firefighters, the record of Westmoreland Fire Department in public service and fire protection is one to be envied; for 24 hours a day, for 365 days a year, for 75 years, whenever the alarm sounded, these noble volunteers left their homes and went to the aid of their neighbors; and

WHEREAS, The Westmoreland Fire Department, located in Oneida County, have a response coverage area of 55 square miles, with a population in

excess of 6,000 people; and

WHEREAS, Westmoreland's Fire Department was housed in the Village on Main Street; a new station was then constructed on Station Road; and

WHEREAS, On May 2, 1944, 18 men from the community met and formed the Westmoreland Fire Department; in July of 1944, 37 men attended a meeting and were later named the charter members of the department; in October of that year, the Town Board appointed the first five Commissioners and necessary equipment was acquired, including: a 500 gallon Pump and a 1939 Brockway truck to carry the equipment; and

WHEREAS, Westmoreland Fire Department received its first call on March 6, 1947; in September 1947, the Fire Department was incorporated, the fire protection contract with Clinton was cancelled, and in 1948, the department held its first annual banquet at Gavin's Restaurant; and

WHEREAS, In 1950, the Westmoreland Fire Department held its first annual Field Days and the Commissioners purchased the first new fire truck; in January of 1961, the Westmoreland Fire Department held its first meeting in the new Main Street fire house, and by 1962, the Home alert radio system was put into service; and

WHEREAS, From May 1944, to January 1, 1975, the Westmoreland Fire Company responded to 742 fire and emergency calls; and

WHEREAS, The brave firefighters of Westmoreland 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, Westmoreland Fire Department reflects the history and development of firefighting over the past 75 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; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to proudly commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Westmoreland Fire Department; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Westmoreland Fire Department.