

2015-J3227

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 60th Anniversary of the Potsdam Volunteer Rescue Squad

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to 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 60th Anniversary of the Potsdam Volunteer Rescue Squad to be celebrated on Saturday, September 26, 2015, at Barben Rooms at the Cheel Arena, Clarkson University, Potsdam, New York; and

WHEREAS, One of the first organizations of its kind in New York State, the Potsdam Volunteer Rescue Squad was founded in the summer of 1955 when a small group of concerned area residents came together to serve the emergency needs of their growing community; and

WHEREAS, On October 1, 1955, the Potsdam Volunteer Rescue Squad was officially organized, and began offering its services to area residents; the charter members trained hard to provide standby coverage at Postwood Park in Hannawa Falls; the unit also received its first ambulance, a 1936 Buick, which was donated by a local funeral home; and

WHEREAS, The Potsdam Volunteer Rescue Squad's initial roster consisted of 23 members, including Sanford Dewey, who served as Chief; Andrew Rodger, Director; Ralph Lawrence, Assistant Chief; and Everett (Bud) Spotswood, Treasurer and Secretary; and

WHEREAS, In response to a rising volume of calls, the Potsdam Volunteer Rescue Squad purchased a second ambulance in 1956; two years later, it also constructed a new headquarters on Cottage Street through generous donations by the community and the tireless efforts of its members; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the past six decades, the Potsdam Volunteer Rescue Squad has proudly provided outstanding emergency medical and rescue services to both the village and the town of Potsdam, the village of Norwood, and parts of the towns of Pierrepont and Stockholm; and

WHEREAS, Today, this courageous rescue company operates out of two stations, and covers a service district of approximately 150 square miles with a population of over 16,000 residents; it also provides vital services to two major universities, Clarkson University and SUNY Potsdam; and

WHEREAS, Access to quality emergency care dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury; during the 60-year history of the Potsdam Volunteer Rescue Squad, its members have worked tirelessly to bring the best quality of care to the residents of Potsdam, New York, and its surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, All members of the Potsdam Volunteer Rescue Squad, past and present, merit 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 those volunteer organizations who enhance the well-being and vitality of their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to excellence certainly have earned the recognition and applause of all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the Potsdam Volunteer Rescue Squad; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Potsdam Volunteer Rescue Squad.