

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 30th Annual Celebration of the Rome, New York, Honor America Days, July 26 through mid-August, 2013

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities across New York State are reflective of the concerned and dedicated efforts of those organizations and individuals that are devoted to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, It is also the custom of this Legislative Body to commemorate significant events in our unique New York State history; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 30th Annual Celebration of the Rome, New York, Honor America Days; this auspicious occasion will be celebrated by multiple events to be held from July 26 through mid-August 2013; and

WHEREAS, The proud home of the Fort Stanwix National Monument and the Erie Canal, Rome, New York, held its first Honor America Days Celebration on August 10-11, 1984; and

WHEREAS, The first Honor America Days Celebration was held in conjunction with the City of Rome's annual Fort Stanwix Days, traditionally held August 1-3, to recognize the siege of the Fort Stanwix on August 3, 1777; and

WHEREAS, The City of Rome, New York, is the home of the former Griffiss Air Force Base; it wanted to present an event which would honor our military and veterans as well as become an annual source of pride for the community; and

WHEREAS, From 1985 to present, the Honor America Days Celebration in Rome, New York, officially begins on the last weekend in July and ends in the middle of August; there are numerous events held throughout this period of time including ice cream socials, church suppers, chicken bar-b-q, children's events and much more; and

WHEREAS, The two biggest events to grow out of the original celebration of the Honor America Days Celebration are the annual parade, which attracts entertainment from as far as Albany to the east and Rochester to the west, along with local marching bands and many, many floats created by community groups; and

WHEREAS, The second signature event of the Honor America Days Celebration is the concert on the lawn of Fort Stanwix National Monument presented by the musicians of the Syracuse Symphony now known as Symphoria; and

WHEREAS, In recent years, two other events have been added to the Honor America Days Celebration by outside groups and have become quite successful: the Rome Rotary Club stages a Canal Fest held on the banks of the Erie Canal; and the East Rome Memories group presents an Italian picnic at Pinti Field following the parade; and

WHEREAS, The 2013 Honor America Days Celebration will feature several innovative changes and improvements, including: a nine by 12 foot Jumbotron screen provided by Entertainment Services; the Rome Free Academy and Westmoreland High School marching bands participation in the parade; and at least a dozen more groups encompassing many different genres of music along with an entire division of the Ziyara Shriners featuring clowns and motorcycles; and

WHEREAS, The Rome, New York, Honor America Days Celebration has grown into one of the largest festivals held annually in the region and enjoys tremendous private sector support to fund the many events; and

WHEREAS, This auspicious occasion presents an opportunity for this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to the 30th Annual Celebration of the Rome, New York, Honor America Days; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when events and organizations of such noble aims and accomplishments, and historic significance, are brought to our attention, they should be recognized and applauded 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 30th Annual Celebration of the Rome, New York, Honor America Days; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Rome, New York, Honor America Days Committee.