

Assembly Resolution No. 631

BY: M. of A. Seawright

COMMEMORATING the Centennial of WWI, and celebration of York Avenue on Manhattan's East Side, named after Sergeant Alvin York in 1928, one of the most decorated United States Army soldiers of WWI

WHEREAS, The quality and character of life in this Nation, and the great State of New York, is reflective of the purposeful lives and good works of those patriotic community members who dedicate their lives to the service of others; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is proud to commemorate the centennial of WWI, and celebration of York Avenue on Manhattan's East Side, named after Sergeant Alvin York, one of the most decorated United States Army soldiers of WWI; and

WHEREAS, Remaining true to its mission, ESWWICC, composed of Manhattan's East Side residents, institutions, and local businesses honors and commemorates the heroism and service of the soldiers and civilians, New Yorkers and other Americans, who upheld the American cause in World War I; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, through community events, education and reflection, ESWWICC is dedicated to paying tribute to the heroism and service of the soldiers and civilians, New Yorkers and other Americans, and to encouraging reflection on the human legacy of the war such as what lessons it holds for today; and

WHEREAS, A medal was commissioned by the East Side WWI Centennial Commemoration (ESWWICC), now known as the "Sergeant Alvin York East Side WWI Centennial Commemoration Medal", designed by internationally acclaimed master coin and medal designer Joel Iskowitz, that depicts on its obverse a central feature of the portrait of WWI hero and medal of honor recipient Sergeant York, namesake of Manhattan's East Side's York Avenue, with a salute to all New Yorkers who served in WWI, and on its reverse, with its central motif of "Victory bathed in the glow of enlightenment," the ESWWICC recognizes women's service in WWI together with that era's extraordinary women's social movements including the suffragists; and

WHEREAS, The ESWWICC and its members including: Co-Chairs Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright and Howard Teich, the Office of Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer, Cantori New York, Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs, Knickerbocker Greys, Kramer, Dillof, Livingston & Moore, Logos Bookstore, Lycee francais de New York and Cadets Lafayette, Mansion Restaurant, Mount Vernon Hotel Museum & Garden, NY-Presbyterian, Weill Cornell Medicine, Park Avenue Armory, Rockefeller University, Roosevelt House Public Policy Institute at Hunter College, Sergeant York Patriotic Foundation, Society of Illustrators, Squadron A Association, Veterans of the Seventh Regiment, Webster Library, Frank Basile, George Cates, and Joel Iskowitz have

contributed to the successful year-long commemoration of WWI and the observance of the East Side celebration of York Avenue; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to commend those dedicated to preserving the memory of those who have served in times of active conflict, as well as those who have served in times of peace; and

WHEREAS, Our Nation's veterans and their families, including Manhattan's East Side, deserve to be recognized for significant contributions to the war effort and thanked by the people of the State of New York for their service and for their dedication to their communities, their State and their Nation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the Centennial of WWI, and celebration of York Avenue on Manhattan's East Side, named after Sergeant Alvin York in 1928, one of the most decorated United States Army soldiers of WWI; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to each member of the East Side World War I Centennial Commemoration Committee, and the families of Manhattan's East Side heroes and heroines.