

BY: Senator MARTINS

COMMEMORATING the 125th Anniversary of the formation of the Rough Riders, Teddy Roosevelt's 1st United States Volunteer Cavalry on June 3, 2023

WHEREAS, Members of the Armed Services from the State of New York, who have served so faithfully and courageously in wars in which our Nation's freedom was at stake, as well as in the preservation of peace during peacetime, deserve a special salute from this Legislative Body; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 125th Anniversary of the formation of the Rough Riders, Teddy Roosevelt's 1st United States Volunteer Cavalry, and to pay tribute to these soldiers for their courage, bravery, service and dedication to the United States Army; and

WHEREAS, During this auspicious occasion on Saturday, June 3, 2023, residents and visitors will learn about the Rough Riders through various events such as demonstrations, saber performances by United States Cavalry Soldiers, interpretive performances, live music, mounted cowboy shooting, and a historical encampment; and

WHEREAS, The Rough Riders was a nickname given to the 1st United States Volunteer Cavalry, one of three such regiments for the Spanish-American War and the only one to see combat; and

WHEREAS, The United States had gone to war in opposition to Spanish colonial policies in Cuba, which was then torn by a rebellion; 1st United States Volunteer Cavalry Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, a strong advocate for the Cuban War of Independence, helped attract skilled horsemen eager to see combat to the regiment; and

WHEREAS, Known as "Roosevelt's Rough Riders," they are best remembered for their conduct during the Battle of San Juan Hill; several days after the Battle, the Spanish fleet sailed from Cuba, and in only a few weeks an armistice ending the fighting was signed; and

WHEREAS, Despite the brevity of their service, the Rough Riders became legendary thanks to Colonel Theodore Roosevelt's writing his own history of the regiment and the silent film reenactments made years later; and

WHEREAS, Later, Colonel Theodore Roosevelt became the 26th President of the United States of America; during his time in office, his residence at Sagamore Hill in Oyster Bay became known as the "Summer White House" and the focus of international attention; and

WHEREAS, Our Nation's veterans deserve to be recognized, commended 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 125th Anniversary of the formation of the Rough Riders, Teddy Roosevelt's 1st United States Volunteer Cavalry on June 3, 2023; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Joseph Saladino, Supervisor, Town of Oyster Bay.