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Michael F. Nozzolio

54th Senate District



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A FLAG TO HONOR THOSE WHO WILL NOT BE FORGOTTEN

On Sept. 11, 2003, our nation mourned as we reflected on that tragic day two years ago and honored the men and women who lost their lives and the members of their families. The attacks of Sept. 11 were a cowardly assault upon our country and upon the sense of freedom, peace and safety we enjoy as American citizens.

It is in the memory of the thousands of heroes who lost their lives that last week I presented a 9/11 National Remembrance Flag to the communities of Geneva, Manchester, Shortsville and Webster to serve as a permanent reminder of that day just 24 months ago.

The 9/11 National Remembrance Flag was designed by Stephen and Joanne Galvin of Wolcott, Wayne County and it is an appropriate symbol to memorialize the victims and heroes of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks and the courageous and ongoing response of all Americans to threats against our safety and freedoms.

The flag has three bars and four stars, each representing a significant event during that tragedy. The two blue bars on each side represent the color of the State flags for each State a plane was downed – New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia. A black color bar runs down the center of the flag and it represents the sorrow felt for the innocent lives from this tragedy.

The four stars on the flag represent the planes that crashed and the innocent lives lost. One blue star represents the Pentagon and American Airlines Flight 77; two white stars represent each of the towers at the World Trade Center, American Airlines Flight 11, United Airlines Flight 175, and all those who perished and those who survived this catastrophe. The one red star represents United Flight 93 which crashed in Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

All proceeds from the sale of these flags go directly to the families of the victims of Sept. 11.

In recognition of the effort Stephen and Joanne Galvin have displayed in creating this flag, I have sponsored an official New York State Senate Resolution asking my colleagues to pause during deliberations to commend them. The resolution will be adopted when the State Senate reconvenes in Albany.

It is my hope that the 9/11 National Remembrance Flag will fly above every government building across our State so that we continue to remember.

Sept. 11, 2001 is a day that every New Yorker and every American will remember forever. That day we all witnessed the most horrific crime ever to take place on American soil. Our nation and state are still feeling the ravages of that terrible act of terrorism and we must continue to work together to rebuild our state and defend our nation's security and freedom at home and abroad.

Residents interested in purchasing a 9/11 National Remembrance Flag to fly in honor over their homes or offices, should call (315) 594-9274 or log onto the flags official Web site at www.911remembranceflag.com. All proceeds from the sale of these flags go directly to the families of the victims of Sept. 11.

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