

# STATE OF NEW YORK

## LEGISLATURE OF ERIE COUNTY

BUFFALO, N.Y., OCTOBER 24TH, 2013 A.D.

ECLEG OCT21'13 --1 401

**I HEREBY CERTIFY**, That at a regular session of the Legislature of Erie County, held in the County Hall, in the City of Buffalo, on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2013, A.D., a resolution was adopted, of which the following is a true copy:

*WHEREAS, Arthur J. Leeming was born in New York City and has been a resident of the Town of Tonawanda for many years; and*

*WHEREAS, Arthur J. Leeming served in the United States Army from 1943 until 1946, achieving the rank of Corporal and earned the prominent honors of the European Theater Medal, two Presidential Unit Citations and the Army of Occupation Medal; and*

*WHEREAS, Arthur J. Leeming arrived at Utah Beach, Normandy 15 days after the Allied invasion on D-Day to care for the wounded at the 6<sup>th</sup> Convalescent Hospital, a field hospital that consisted of more than 100 tents and moved as the troops advanced across Europe; and*

*WHEREAS, Arthur J. Leeming, whose goal was to create an oasis of healing once the wounded were sewn and bandaged, formed a 10-piece orchestra, consisting of an accordion, guitar, two trumpets, two saxophones, a drum, a bass fiddle, a piano and a conductor, and called themselves "the Sad Sacks" after a cartoon character in the Stars and Stripes newspaper, and coined the motto "If you can't play good, play loud; and*

*WHEREAS, the instruments were lost while being transport from Furth, Germany to Nuremberg, when a truck hit a land mine and the instruments were blown to smithereens, ending "The Sad Sacks"; and,*

*WHEREAS, Arthur J. Leeming, upon returning to Western New York married and is the proud father of two daughters and has three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren; and*

*WHEREAS, Arthur J. Leeming formed a three-piece band and played at gin mills around the West Side of Buffalo; and*

*WHEREAS, Arthur J. Leeming is a member of the Grandfathers Orchestra, the Buffalo Banjo Band, the Singing Seniors and Showtime, and serves as president of the Happy Time Club who perform for free at area nursing homes.*

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED**, the Erie County Legislature pauses in its deliberations to recognize and honor **Arthur J. Leeming** for his commitment and service to his country during World War II, and for his dedication to the community.

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**Kevin R. Hardwick**  
Erie County Legislator – 4<sup>th</sup> District

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**Robert M. Graber**  
Clerk of the Legislature