

PROCLAMATION

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Citizens of the Town of Claverack New York

WHEREAS, thousands of years ago, the great Mohican peoples of this continent lived in our area, had a rich culture including the legend of Spook Rock, and lived in a village called Potkoke;

WHEREAS, in the year 1609, Captain Henry Hudson sailed the ship *Half Moon* upon the river that would be named after him and the ship's officer, Robert Juet, recorded in his journal meeting the Mohicans in our area whom he called "very loving people;"

WHEREAS, by the year 1630, Dutch navigation maps recorded "Klaver Rack" as the name of the stretch of river bordering the Klavers of our land;

WHEREAS, in year 1680, Jasper Dankers described our fair land as follows: "*We arrived at the places which consist of fine farms; the tillable land is like that of Schoonechtendeel, low, flat, and on the side of a creek, very delightful and pleasant to look upon, especially at the present time, when they were all green with the wheat coming up. The woodland also is very good for tillable land, and it was one of the locations which pleased me most.*" These fertile alluvial plains, undulating fields, and hillocks were bravely settled by families from Holland, with their neighbors, the Mohican people, early mothers and fathers of the children of Claverack;

WHEREAS, in the year 1767, the handsome Reformed Dutch Church was built, encouraging the building of other churches in our town, and continues to inspire the spiritual life of the citizens of Claverack;

WHEREAS, in the year 1779, Claverack became a center of higher learning when the Washington Seminary was chartered, rechartered as Claverack Academy, later Claverack College, educating American leaders, men and women, until it closed in 1902. Trail blazers like 8th US President Martin Van Buren, author Stephen Crane, woman's rights advocate Margaret Sanger, were just a few whose work will not to be forgotten by the world;

WHEREAS, Claverack became the cross roads of the region, at the intersection of the Post Road from Albany to New York City and the Columbia Turnpike from the Hudson River to Boston;

WHEREAS, in the year of 1772, the District of Claverack was organized and in the year 1786, Columbia County was established naming Claverack as the county seat and site of the county courthouse where it remained until 1805;

WHEREAS, on March 7, 1788, AN ACT of the New York State Legislature divided the counties into the towns in which: "All that part of the said county of Columbia, bounded southerly by the manor of Livingston, westerly by the city of Hudson, northerly by Kinderhook, and easterly by a line beginning at the southeast corner of Kinderhook, and running thence south fourteen degrees west to the manor of Livingston, and shall be and hereby is erected into a town by the name of Claverack;"

WHEREAS, the citizens of the Town of Claverack recognize and cherish the rich history of our town, its land, buildings, monuments, and the many contributions that our people have bestowed upon the progress of our county, state, and nation and wish to recognize and preserve this record;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Robin Andrews, Supervisor of the Town of Claverack, this day do solemnly proclaim 2013 as the TWO HUNDRED TWENTY FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TOWN OF CLAVERACK and urge all citizens of Claverack to participate in commemorative activities.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Seal of the Town of Claverack this day of March 7, 2013.