

Historic Courthouse Bell Will Toll To Mark World War I Centennial On November 11th

As part of the national ‘Bells of Peace’ World War I remembrance program, the bell at Hunterdon County’s Historic Courthouse will toll twenty-one times, at 11 am on November 11th, commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the end of World War I and recognizing all whose lives were lost in the ‘war to end all wars.’

The Freeholder Board approved participation in the Bells of Peace program at the November 7th Board meeting, at which Freeholder John W. King stated, “On Sunday, November 11th, 2018, the nation, and the world, will mark the Centennial of the end of the first World War, November 11, 1918 – a day we now recognize in the United States as Veterans’ Day.

At 11 am on November 11th, the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month, bells will be tolled 21 times across the nation in recognition of the nation’s highest honor for our war dead, the 21-gun salute.”

King noted, “116,516 Americans gave their lives in the war, and more than 200,000 were wounded. And while historical data is not fully complete, I am advised that somewhere between 24 and 43 Hunterdon County residents lost their lives during World War I.

Over 4 million Americans served the nation during what was called at the time ‘The Great War.’ And while there are no longer any World War I Veterans still with us, it is, in my opinion, most important for us to honor their memory.”

The Proclamation approved by the Freeholders states, the County will honor the patriotism, dedication, and sacrifice of those who served the nation in World War I, through participation in the Bells of Peace program, by having the bell at the Historic Courthouse in Flemington sounded 21 times, at 11 am on November 11, 2018, and that American ‘Doughboys’ should never be forgotten for their service and sacrifice in the war to end all wars.