

2009-J5406

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Brandon Lyles of the Boys and Girls Club of the Northtowns, upon the occasion of his designation as the recipient of the Boys and Girls Club of Northtowns' Youth of the Year Award

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to act in accord with its long-standing traditions by honoring the youth of today, and leaders of tomorrow, whose character and achievements best exemplify the ideals and values cherished by this great State and Nation; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Brandon Lyles of the Boys and Girls Club of the Northtowns, upon the occasion of his designation as the recipient of the Boys and Girls Club of Northtowns' Youth of the Year Award; and

WHEREAS, The Boys and Girls Club of the Northtowns is a youth development agency whose goal is to inspire and enable all young people, especially those from disadvantaged circumstances, to realize their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens; and

WHEREAS, The Youth of the Year title is the highest award given to any Club member; in order to be chosen, a candidate must be nominated by a staff member or a member from the community, wherein each member must compile an impressive application packet that includes school grades, letters of recommendation from teachers and community members, two completed essays about what the Club means to them, and demonstrate prior service to both the Club and the community; and

WHEREAS, In accordance with the qualifications needed, Brandon Lyles has eminently distinguished himself as a young man of superlative ability, talent and maturity, establishing standards of excellence and achievement rarely attained in youthful years; and

WHEREAS, Brandon Lyles is a 16-year-old junior at Cardinal O'Hara High

School in the Town of Tonawanda; he comes from a background that few will ever experience; and

WHEREAS, Losing his mother at a young age, Brandon Lyles was raised by his aunt and uncle, graduated from the Buffalo Magnet School at the Buffalo Zoo, and decided to attend Cardinal O'Hara High School; and

WHEREAS, As a freshman, Brandon Lyles applied for and was awarded a full scholarship to O'Hara through the Oishei Foundation Scholar program; he was elected president of his freshman class, a position he has held each year; and

WHEREAS, As a sophomore, Brandon Lyles was selected by the Kiwanis Club of the Tonawandas as a recipient of the Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership (HOBY) award; HOBY's mission is to inspire and develop youth and volunteers to live a life dedicated to leadership, service and innovation; and

WHEREAS, The HOBY recipients have the opportunity to work at the Boys and Girls Club Camp Spirit and Brandon Lyles has worked out so well that he was offered a job at the Franklin Boys and Girls Club in Tonawanda; because he has made such a positive impact not only on the members at the club, but also of his peers and co-workers, he was chosen as a candidate for the Boys and Girls Club Youth of the Year; and

WHEREAS, A true asset to society, Brandon Lyles is not just about himself, but is more about helping other kids; he is someone who inspires everyone; and

WHEREAS, Reliable and dedicated, Brandon Lyles works at the Boys and Girls Club three days a week and also helped with the basketball clinic that ran on Saturdays; he also received training in order to assist with the Youth Power program, which teaches kids about abstaining from alcohol and drugs; and

WHEREAS, A varsity football player, Brandon Lyles carries a 98 average, is in the National Honor Society, Model U.N. and sings in the Song Corps; he also has had the lead in the school's musicals and has been

encouraged by his English teacher to apply and become a student ambassador for Make-a-Wish Foundation; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is moved to honor Brandon Lyles, an able scholar and loyal servant to his community, recognizing the value of his labors and the promise of his future; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Brandon Lyles of the Boys and Girls Club of the Northtowns, upon the occasion of his designation as the recipient of the Boys and Girls Club of Northtowns' Youth of the Year Award; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Brandon Lyles.