

2013-J3272

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring James A. Marshall upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2014 Citizen of the Year Award by the Clarence Chamber of Commerce, on February 27, 2014

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to acknowledge outstanding individuals whose professional lives, personal endeavors and community service are an example and inspiration to their colleagues, friends, and family; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor James A. Marshall upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2014 Citizen of the Year Award by the Clarence Chamber of Commerce; this auspicious occasion will be celebrated at the Chamber's Annual Awards Dinner, to be held on Thursday, February 27, 2014, at Samuel's Grande Manor, Williamsville, New York; and

WHEREAS, Educator and nature enthusiast James A. Marshall is being celebrated for his legacy of institutionalizing outdoor education for the Clarence, New York community; and

WHEREAS, James A. Marshall completed a Bachelor of Science degree at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, in 1967, after which he served for four years in the United States Air Force as a Titan II missile engineer; upon his discharge, he completed a master's degree in Education at the University of Buffalo; and

WHEREAS, James A. Marshall began his 38-year education career at Clarence High School in 1972, teaching many courses, including Regents and Honors Biology, Wilderness Wise, General and Regents Chemistry, Living Environment I and II; and

WHEREAS, James A. Marshall's commitment to providing everyone the opportunity to experience the wonders of nature inspired the development

of formal outdoor education courses and programs; and

WHEREAS, In 1974, the Science Club evolved into the Wilderness Wise Outdoor Education class, in which students learned survival skills in the outdoors, their final exam consisting of a weeklong trip to the Adirondack Mountains; in the Living Environment Class, a two-year program designed to help some of Clarence's most academically challenged students pass the Regents exams, seniors from the Wilderness Wise class mentored freshman students in Life Skills and Wilderness trips where students learned to apply survival skills in the wilderness as well as in life; and

WHEREAS, James A. Marshall also served as the liaison between the Clarence schools and the Town of Clarence in the development of the Clarence Nature Center, tirelessly serving as both salesman and ambassador to bring the center into fruition; and

WHEREAS, James A. Marshall retired from teaching in 2010; he now spends countless hours at the Clarence Nature Center as a volunteer co-coordinator, having provided an outdoor classroom for thousands of Clarence students, hundreds of Clarence residents, and multitudes of Clarence community organizations; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of his professional and community service, a period of constructive involvement, James A. Marshall has stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor, and has earned the respect and admiration of his colleagues, family and friends; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which James A. Marshall has displayed throughout his life; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor James A. Marshall upon the occasion of his designation as recipi-

ent of the 2014 Citizen of the Year Award by the Clarence Chamber of Commerce; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be tran-

mitted to James A. Marshall.