

2013-J4023

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring the Scher Family upon the occasion of their designation as recipients of the Pillars of the Community Award by the Sidney Albert Albany Jewish Community Center

WHEREAS, Individuals who give of their time and energies and serve the best interests of their communities are an asset beyond remuneration and cannot be sufficiently extolled; and

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 the Scher Family upon the occasion of their designation as recipients of the Pillars of the Community Award by the Sidney Albert Albany Jewish Community Center; this auspicious occasion will be celebrated at the Center's 14th Annual Pillars of the Community Awards Brunch to be held on Sunday, April 6, 2014; and

WHEREAS, The Schers, Paul and Elaine, Martin and Barbara, and Mark and Beth, are a family with deep roots in the professional and Jewish communities of the Capital Region; they share the common interests and goals of giving back to their community; their philanthropy and community involvement are extensive, yet they prefer to work behind the scenes, giving of their time and money often anonymously and without fanfare; and

WHEREAS, Paul and Elaine Scher have been married 57 years and have raised two sons, Mark (Beth) and David (Corinn), as well as four grandchildren, Michael, Rachel, Benjamin and Andrew; and

WHEREAS, Paul Scher is a Principal in M. Scher & Son, Inc., an elec-

trical utility contracting firm that has worked on many prominent projects including upgrading and installing the main electric infrastructure for the 1980 Lake Placid Olympics and, more recently, installing the electrical distribution system at the University of Albany Nanotech campus; and

WHEREAS, Elaine was a co-owner of Monkey Business, a high-end clothing boutique located in Albany in the 1970s and 1980s; and

WHEREAS, The two have been involved in many community outreach organizations including the Workshop for the Handicapped, the B'Nai Brith Senior Citizens Housing Project, the Hadassah and PAP Corps; their help has been vital in construction and fundraising projects for the Jewish community over the years; and

WHEREAS, Barbara and Martin "Marty" Scher have been married for 50 years and have two sons, Todd (Jimmy) and Eric (Stacey), as well as, two grandchildren, Nathan and Alexandra; and

WHEREAS, Martin Scher, is also a Principal in M. Scher & Sons, Inc., and in the mid-1980s, became President of the Eastern Contractors Association; and

WHEREAS, Barbara Scher is a graduate of the Russell Sage College in Troy, New York, and has utilized her business acumen in partnering with Elaine Scher to run the Monkey Business boutique; and

WHEREAS, Both are extremely active members of Temple Israel; Martin has served on its Board of Directors and Chair of its Finance and Investment Committee; Barbara has participated in philanthropic organizations such as Hadassah, Abigail and PAP; and

WHEREAS, Married since 1982, Beth and Mark Scher have two children, Michael and Rachel, and are members of Congregation Beth Emeth; and

WHEREAS, Mark Scher is a graduate of Siena College in Loudonville, New York and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York; he is a Professional Engineer (PE) in many states, and is currently a Principal in Applied High Voltage, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, Beth Scher received her degree in Studio Art from the University at Albany and recently earned her Masters of Fine Arts degree at the University of the Arts in Philadelphia; she has worked as a Vice President of the Municipal Bond Department of First Albany Corporation for 17 years; and

WHEREAS, Together they have made tremendous contributions to their community; Mark Scher has been the Albany Jewish Community Center boys basketball coach and led his team to their first Maccabi Games in St. Louis; Beth Scher is as a member of the Albany JCC Board since 1999, serving on many committees, including Finance and Endowment; she is a lifetime member of Hadassah; she has also been a board member of Upper Hudson Planned Parenthood, the Daughters of Sarah Foundation, and National Association of Women Artists; and

WHEREAS, Throughout their entire period of their professional and community service, a period of constructive involvement, Paul and Elaine, Martin and Barbara, and Mark and Beth have stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor, and have earned the respect and admiration of their colleagues; family and friends; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by individuals for the benefit of others which the Scher family has displayed throughout their lifetimes; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor the Scher family upon the occasion of their designation as recipients of the Pillars of the Community Award by the Sidney Albert Albany Jewish Community Center; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Scher family, Paul and Elaine, Martin and Barbara, and Mark and Beth.