

2013-J4477

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Richie Labanowski upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2013 Citizen of the Year Award by the Pine Island Chamber of Commerce

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, Richie Labanowski has given not only of his time and energies but also of his competence, intelligence and leadership and consequently has been designated for special honor; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Richie Labanowski upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2013 Citizen of the Year Award by the Pine Island Chamber of Commerce at their annual social on Sunday, October 27, 2013 at the Polish Legion Hall, Pine Island, New York; and

WHEREAS, Richie Labanowski served his country as a member of the United States Marine Corps and worked at West Point Military Academy for 32 years; he is a member of the Polish Legion of American Veterans Post 16 in Pine Island, where he serves as post chaplain and on the board of directors; and

WHEREAS, A renowned polka dancer, Richie Labanowski was the 1960 champion at the Harvest Moon Ball, the most famous dance contest in the world at the time; he appeared on the Ed Sullivan show and, as a dance champion, rubbed shoulders with such stars as Mickey Rooney, Danny Thomas, the McGuire Sisters and Patsy Cline; his dancing entertained many dignitaries, including General Omar Bradley and Senator Edmund Muskie; and

WHEREAS, Distinctly proud of his Polish heritage, this remarkable man has contributed his time and energies to numerous events held at the

Hudson Valley Polonaise Society, including giving weekly lessons in the Polish dancing that made him famous; and

WHEREAS, Richie Labanowski has been called upon to contribute his time and talents to countless civic and charitable endeavors and has always given of himself unstintingly; he received the prestigious Ad Altare Dei Award for his many years of service to the local Boy Scouts of America, and has also volunteered in the Pine Island Ambulance Corps for 13 years; and

WHEREAS, A man of faith, Richie Labanowski has been an active member of St. Stanislaus Roman Catholic Church in Pine Island, serving in their honor guard for many years; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of his community service, a period of constructive involvement, Richie Labanowski has stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor; and

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

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Richie Labanowski upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2013 Citizen of the Year Award by the Pine Island Chamber of Commerce; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Richie Labanowski.