

2013-K1157

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Richard Dickershaid upon the occasion of being selected as the Schenectady County 2014 Senior Citizen of the Year by the New York State Office for the Aging

WHEREAS, Senior citizens bring a wealth of experience and knowledge to the increasingly active roles they play in today's society; their past contributions and future participation are a vital part of, and valuable asset to, the fabric of community life and activity; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Richard Dickershaid upon the occasion of being selected as the Schenectady County 2014 Senior Citizen of the Year; this momentous occasion will be celebrated at the New York State Office for the Aging's 2014 Senior Citizens Day Celebration on Tuesday, May 6, 2014, at the Hart Theatre Lounge in the Egg, Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, Each May in the State of New York and across the Nation, during National Older Americans Month, the New York State Office for the Aging pauses to acknowledge the outstanding contributions made by older citizens; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, members of the older generation have helped build and shape our Nation to be the greatest in the world; they have defended our freedoms and values to ensure that those who come after them may have better lives; nowhere in the nation is the legacy of their efforts more visible and more a part of the lives of all citizens than here in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Richard Dickershaid, a very active and industrious man, has inspired and enriched the lives of his family and friends through his love and respect for others, generously sharing the wisdom gained over years of experiencing life to its fullest; and

WHEREAS, A lifelong resident of Duanesburg, New York, Richard Dickers-

shaid was born February 14, 1938; he graduated from Draper High School in 1958, and Mohawk Valley Tech Center in 1962; and

WHEREAS, Richard Dickershaid retired from the New York State Office of General Services after serving many years as a computer technician, as well as from General Electric where he worked as a computer programmer; and

WHEREAS, Richard Dickershaid has been called upon to contribute his time and talents to countless civic and charitable endeavors and has always given of himself unstintingly; and

WHEREAS, A steadfast volunteer for 58 years, Richard Dickershaid has dedicated his life to the service of his community; he has served as a camp counselor, little-league and baseball coach, and as an umpire; and

WHEREAS, After battling tuberculosis as a young child, Richard Dickershaid developed a strong character as well as a determination and passion to develop a baseball program for children and adults with developmental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, For more than 22 years, Richard Dickershaid has devoted his time, energy, heart and soul into the organization of his youth baseball program for individuals with disabilities, the Challengers' Baseball League; and

WHEREAS, Rising from unofficial sandlot games to organized games with team uniforms, equipment, umpires, and cheering family and friends, Richard Dickershaid found a permanent home for his League in 2010, at Woestina Park, affectionately known as the Field of Dreams; and

WHEREAS, A true humanitarian, Richard Dickershaid's greatest reward is the realization that he has accomplished his dream of creating a baseball league for all persons with disabilities; and

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

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individ-

ual for the benefit of others which Richard Dickershaid has displayed throughout his life; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife of 50 years, Marge, their two sons, seven grandchildren, and 3 great-grandchildren, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to publicly recognize and commend those who have witnessed and contributed to the developments and achievements of our Nation, State, and communities over the course of their noteworthy lives; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Richard Dickershaid upon the occasion of being selected as the Schenectady County 2014 Senior Citizen of the Year by the New York State Office for the Aging; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Richard Dickershaid.