

## 2013-J5745

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Ben Ross upon the occasion of his induction into the Greater Utica Sports Hall of Fame on June 8, 2014

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to outstanding athletes who have distinguished themselves through their exceptional performance, attaining unprecedented success and the highest level of personal achievement; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Ben Ross upon the occasion of his induction into the Greater Utica Sports Hall of Fame, to be celebrated on Sunday, June 8, 2014, at the Radisson Hotel-Utica Centre, Utica, New York; and

WHEREAS, A tough, iconic figure at New York Mills High School, Ben Ross served as a Coach and Athletic Director for two decades before becoming Principal; and

WHEREAS, Ben Ross was known throughout the State for his unprecedented football coaching record of 131-25-2 in 20 seasons, including 11 of the first 13 Championships in the Center State Conference, which he was instrumental in founding; he had numerous undefeated and one loss seasons; and

WHEREAS, In addition, he had great success in basketball, baseball and track, where his baseball teams captured two sectional titles and many of his track athletes won sectional crowns; and

WHEREAS, In his final years at New York Mills High School, he concluded his illustrious career as high school Principal; Ben Ross was much more than a Coach, Athletic Director, or Principal; he instilled in the entire student body, a will to succeed; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, this exemplary man ensured that his athletes performed in academics as well as in sports; and

WHEREAS, For his immeasurable contributions to New York Mills High School and the community-at-large, Ben Ross was honored with a village wide, "Ben Ross Day"; the school also honored him by naming the football field and track the "Ben Ross Field"; and

WHEREAS, Ben Ross will always be remembered as a New York Mills icon, not only for his extraordinary records, but for the life lessons and high standards he imparted to all; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is moved to honor Ben Ross for his extraordinary accomplishments which are a tribute to his skill, dedication and commitment; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Ben Ross upon the occasion of his induction into the Greater Utica Sports Hall of Fame on June 8, 2014; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Ben Ross.