

## 2015-J1412

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Steve Peterson upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Citizen of the Year Award by the Bethlehem 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, Steve Peterson 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 commend Steve Peterson upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Citizen of the Year Award by the Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce to be celebrated at its 30th Annual Awards Dinner on Friday, April 17, 2015, at the Cyprus Shrine Center, Glenmont, New York; and

WHEREAS, Established in 1957, the Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce works on a local and regional level to advance economic development and foster a positive business environment; it offers resources for residents, business, recreation and relocation in Bethlehem and the surrounding region; and

WHEREAS, Steve Peterson is a resident of Glenmont who has devoted over eight years and countless hours to helping young people both on and off the baseball field; and

WHEREAS, This remarkable man was instrumental in the founding and development of Bethlehem Mickey Mantle and the Braves Travel Baseball Organization, which works to provide youth with the opportunity to play organized and competitive baseball, train with world-class athletes and to learn the importance of discipline and dedication, teamwork and sportsmanship; and

WHEREAS, Founded in 2007 with two teams, the Braves Travel Baseball Organization now offers six teams, and provides year-round baseball opportunities for 13-22 year olds; it also offers opportunities for financially challenged families who would not otherwise have the chance to play travel baseball; and

WHEREAS, Steve Peterson 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, Through his work with the Braves Travel Baseball Organization, Steve Peterson has given young athletes the opportunity to give back to their communities through both sponsorship and volunteering at events including the Bethlehem Turkey Trot which benefits the Bethlehem Food Pantry; and

WHEREAS, The Braves Travel Baseball Organization also sponsors a proud Bethlehem tradition, hosting the Annual 4th of July Vintage 1864 Baseball game, a highlight of the Town Park's Fourth of July Family Celebrations; and

WHEREAS, Steve Peterson has further demonstrated his commitment to improving community life by developing the Bethlehem Youth Sports Council and the Heads UP Safe Sports, which raises awareness and provides education on the importance of safety in the world of sports; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of his community service, a period of constructive involvement, Steve Peterson 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 Steve Peterson has displayed throughout his life; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Steve Peterson upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Citizen of the Year Award by the Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Steve Peterson.