

2009-K251

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Azzy and Paula Reckess upon the occasion of their designation for special recognition by the Jewish Community Center of Dutchess County on March 28, 2009

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is moved to recognize and pay tribute to those individuals of firm belief and commitment who have devoted their purposeful lives to the service of faith and community; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Azzy and Paula Reckess upon the occasion of their designation for special recognition by the Jewish Community Center of Dutchess County at its Fifth Annual March Mystique, A Masked Ball, to be held on Saturday, March 28, 2009, at the Dutchess Golf and Country Club, Poughkeepsie, New York; and

WHEREAS, Azzy and Paula Reckess have continually demonstrated extreme competence, extraordinary intelligence and diligent leadership in their unwavering service to the Jewish community and consequently have been designated for this most prestigious honor; and

WHEREAS, Azzy and Paula Reckess have been members of the Dutchess County community for 18 years; during which time they have brought endless energy, passion and love to their family, business endeavors, and numerous volunteer efforts; and

WHEREAS, The Jewish Community Center of Dutchess County stands today because of their unwavering support and encouragement of others to join together in promoting the mission of the institution and the Jewish community; and

WHEREAS, Azzy and Paula Reckess met in Israel in 1974, and later married in June of 1975; at this time, Paula worked as a Physical Therapist in a children's hospital in Israel in which she specialized in

cystic fibrosis patients; Azzy was trained as a Social Worker and counseled soldiers of the Israeli army; he would eventually rise to the rank of Major in the Israeli Army; and

WHEREAS, In 1978, Azzy and Paula Reckess moved to the United States and, by way of Brooklyn they came to Dutchess County in 1981; they developed and started a company building and operating assisted living facilities, filling a critical need in the area, and today, it is still a thriving enterprise; and

WHEREAS, Today, Paula Reckess manages office operations and their son, Jacob Reckess, runs the facility's operations; and

WHEREAS, Azzy and Paula Reckess have been called upon to contribute their time and talents to countless civic and charitable endeavors and have always given of themselves unstintingly; and

WHEREAS, Paula Reckess has been a board member and is past president of the Rabbi Erwin Zimet Hebrew Day School; she also brought her skills to Temple Beth El as a board member, past president, and sisterhood member; she has been on various committees including the Green Team (as chairperson) and is a founder of the Kiddush Cup tennis tournament; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Paula Reckess is a member of ORT, JWI, and Hadassah; recently, she served on the committee for the Anne Frank Exhibit and co-chaired the Holocaust Commemoration committee through the Jewish Federation of Dutchess County; in 2008, she biked 270 miles from Jerusalem to Eilat in Israel to raise funds for the Arava Institute and Hazon that brings together Arabs and Israelis; and

WHEREAS, Azzy Reckess was active with the Rabbi Erwin Zimet Hebrew Day School as a board member and past president; he is a long time board member and current President of the Jewish Community Center of Dutchess County, as well as a member of the Harding Club; and

WHEREAS, Moreover, Azzy Reckess has chaired Jewish Community Center of Dutchess County committees that have produced several Israeli Independence Day celebrations and Hasidic festivals; he has also chaired the

Russian Immigrant Settlement committee; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of their community service, a period of constructive involvement, Azzy and Paula Reckess have stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor; and

WHEREAS, With them throughout have been their children, Gila, David and Jacob, as well as their grandson, Owen, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of their lives and rejoice in their achievements; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by individuals for the benefit of others which Azzy and Paula Reckess have displayed throughout their lives; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when persons of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, it is appropriate to publicly and jubilantly proclaim and commend those individuals for the edification of others; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Azzy and Paula Reckess upon the occasion of their designation for special recognition by the Jewish Community Center of Dutchess County; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Azzy and Paula Reckess.