

## 2015-J229

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Bill Sigrist upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2014 Citizen of the Year Award by the Seneca County Chamber of Commerce

WHEREAS, It is incumbent upon the people of the State of New York to recognize and acknowledge those within our midst who have made significant contributions to the quality of life therein; and

WHEREAS, Bill Sigrist 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, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Bill Sigrist upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2014 Citizen of the Year Award by the Seneca County Chamber of Commerce, to be celebrated at its Annual Dinner Meeting on Friday, January 23, 2015, at Ventosa Vineyards, Geneva, New York; and

WHEREAS, Born December 25, 1955, to Herman and Hope Brand Sigrist in Seneca Falls, New York, Bill Sigrist graduated from Waterloo Central School in 1974; he went on to earn a degree from Cayuga Community College in 1984; and

WHEREAS, Bill Sigrist honorably served the United States Navy as a Seabee from 1974 to 1979; he was employed by the Seneca Army Depot for more than a decade before buying Nugent Hardware in 1994; and

WHEREAS, Under the luminous direction of Bill Sigrist, Nugent Hardware was a steadfast supporter of Habitat for Humanity through the generous donation of supplies, tools, home goods and paint for use in its ongoing endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of his community service, a period of constructive involvement, Bill Sigrist has stood constant in

dignity, good grace and humor; and

WHEREAS, As President of the Waterloo Business Association, Bill Sigrist resurrected the Waterloo Business and Professional Association after a prolonged stretch of inactivity; he was instrumental in bringing interest back into downtown, and established "The Real Christmas" as an event to incorporate the story of Christmas with downtown retailers; and WHEREAS, A valued and involved member of his community, Bill Sigrist served as President of the Waterloo Library and Historical Society; he co-chaired an aggressive campaign to raise funds to repair the library; and

WHEREAS, In addition, he led the Board and staff as the library moved to become a fixture of information sharing in the community through community outreach, and organizational restructuring with a strong desire to revitalize the Terwilliger Museum and increase its attendance; and

WHEREAS, A fifteen year member of the Celebrate Commemorate Committee, Bill Sigrist took the initiative, along with his son, to install electric in Lafayette Park; this valuable resource has been used for several events throughout the years and ensures vendors can provide community members access to various forms of entertainment and activities during the Memorial Day celebration and beyond; and

WHEREAS, Bill Sigrist has served as Waterloo Rotary President twice, and has chaired both the Membership and Foundation Committees; a four-time Paul Harris Fellow, he continues to fund initiatives pertaining to the eradication of Polio, improving education around the world, and providing clean water in underdeveloped countries, among other projects; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, he served as a Board member of the Seneca County Cornell Cooperative Extension, and Advisory Board member for NBG/Five Star Bank; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife, Kathy, and their two

children, Michael and Erin, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Bill Sigrist has displayed throughout his life; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the well-being and vitality of their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to excellence certainly have earned the recognition and applause of all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Bill Sigrist upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2014 Citizen of the Year Award by the Seneca County Chamber of Commerce; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Bill Sigrist.