

## 2015-J1474

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Gary G. Baxter upon the occasion of his designation as a 2015 honoree by the Seneca Waterways Council Boy Scouts of America on April 30, 2015

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to citizens of the State of New York whose lifework and civic endeavor served to enhance the quality of life in their communities and the great State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Gary G. Baxter upon the occasion of his designation as a 2015 honoree by the Seneca Waterways Council Boy Scouts of America, to be celebrated at its 40th Annual Youth Power Dinner on Thursday, April 30, 2015, at the Belhurst Castle, Geneva, New York; and

WHEREAS, Gary G. Baxter's mission of serving his community began in 1978 when he became a police officer for the City of Geneva; and

WHEREAS, In 1987, Gary G. Baxter was promoted to Detective/Youth Officer and was trained to become one of the first DARE officers in New York State; during this time he established the fifth grade DARE program for the Geneva City School District and later expanded the program to include the first and third grades; and

WHEREAS, Gary G. Baxter became active in scouting when his son, Gordy, became a Tiger Scout in Pack 5, sponsored by the West Street School Parent Association; he served in several capacities throughout the years including Den Leader for Pack 5 from 1992 to 2000, and Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmaster for Troop 4, sponsored by the Presbyterian Church in Geneva; and

WHEREAS, Gary G. Baxter has received numerous awards including the 2002 Boy Scout Leader of the Year Award, the 2003 Leadership Training

Award, the 2004 Scouter's Husband Award, the 2007 District Award of Merit, the 2009 James E. West Fellowship Award, and the 2014 Silver Beaver Award; and

WHEREAS, In addition to his scouting activities, Gary G. Baxter has owned and operated two businesses, Baxter's Catering and Mac's Driving School; and

WHEREAS, Gary G. Baxter 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 true asset to society, Gary G. Baxter has served as Advancement Chairman, Executive Board Member and Chairman of the Membership Committee for the former Finger Lakes Council; he is currently an Executive Board Member of the Seneca Waterways Council; and

WHEREAS, Gary G. Baxter has also served as Councilor-at-Large in Geneva, New York from 1999 to 2005, Home School Liaison for the Geneva School District, Charter Member of the Partnership for a Drug Free Ontario County, Little League Coach and Member of the Board of Directors for the Geneva Boys and Girls Club; and

WHEREAS, Gary G. Baxter has served as President of the Hydrant Hose Fire Company, Fire Commissioner for the City of Geneva, and President of the Ontario County Volunteer Firemen's Association; and

WHEREAS, This esteemed man is currently the Ontario County Treasurer, a position he has held since 2005; he also presently serves as Chairman of the Ontario County Employee United Way Campaign, Chairman of the Memorial Day Parade Committee and a member of the Damascus Shriners organization; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of his community service, a period of constructive involvement, Gary G. Baxter has stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his wife of 34 years, Donna, and their children, Gordon (Stacey) and Thomas (Elizabeth), as well as

two grandsons, Carson and Hugh, 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 Gary G. Baxter has displayed throughout his life; 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 Gary G. Baxter upon the occasion of his designation as a 2015 honoree by the Seneca Waterways Council Boy Scouts of America on April 30, 2015, and to wish him continued success in all of his future endeavors; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Gary G. Baxter.