

2015-K616

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Cheryl Longyear upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Public Leadership Award by Parks and Trails New York

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that the continuing welfare of the citizens of this great State and Nation is greatly enriched by the purposeful endeavors of individuals and organizations committed to the preservation of our environment, and to the enhancement of appreciation for the distinctive features of our natural surroundings; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern and fully in accord with its long-standing traditions, it is the intent of this Legislative Body to honor Cheryl Longyear upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Public Leadership Award by Parks and Trails New York to be celebrated on Wednesday, June 10, 2015, in Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, Parks and Trails New York (PTNY) is a leading statewide environmental advocate dedicated to improving the health and quality of life of all New Yorkers by working with community organizations and municipalities to envision, create, promote, and protect a growing network of parks, greenways and trails for all residents to use and enjoy; and

WHEREAS, The 2015 PTNY Park and Trail Hero Awards recognize those exceptional individuals whose leadership, creativity, and donation of time, talent, and materials are behind many of New York's parks and trails; and

WHEREAS, Cheryl Longyear is receiving the Public Leadership Award in recognition of her longtime efforts as a passionate community organizer, and for spearheading the development of a trail system in the Montezuma Heritage Park; and

WHEREAS, For more than a decade, Cheryl Longyear has ably served as

historian for the Town of Montezuma, New York; and

WHEREAS, Several years ago, Cheryl Longyear began working with a core group of volunteers to develop trails and plans for the Montezuma Heritage Park; her initiative picked up steam in 2010 after the town was awarded a grant from the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, and a plan was completed in 2013; and

WHEREAS, This esteemed woman has strived to carry out historic and environmental initiatives like the Montezuma Heritage Park in an effort to help increase the tax base through an emphasis on tourism and attracting businesses and visitors; and

WHEREAS, Cheryl Longyear and park volunteers have been successful in developing seven trails, with plans for an eighth on the way, through the park which is comprised of more than 140 acres in size; and

WHEREAS, In addition to her many accomplishments as a historian and conservationist, Cheryl Longyear is an active member of the Montezuma town planning board, and is helping to compose the town's first comprehensive plan; and

WHEREAS, It is incumbent upon every citizen to recognize that we are all stewards of our environment and to applaud the efforts of individuals like Cheryl Longyear who work tirelessly to protect our environment and natural surroundings for the benefit of present and future generations; 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 Cheryl Longyear upon the occasion of her designation as recipient

of the Public Leadership Award by Parks and Trails New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be tran-

mitted to Cheryl Longyear.