

## 2015-J4632

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Eitan and Malka Evan upon the occasion of their designation as recipients of the Pillars of the Community Award by the Sidney Albert Albany Jewish Community Center

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, From time to time this Legislative Body takes note of certain extraordinary individuals it wishes to recognize for their valued contributions to the success and progress of society and publicly acknowledge their endeavors which have enhanced the basic humanity among us all; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Eitan and Malka Evan upon the occasion of their designation as recipients of the Pillars of the Community Award by the Sidney Albert Albany Jewish Community Center, to be celebrated at its 16th Annual Pillars of the Community Awards Brunch on Sunday, April 17, 2016, at Congregation Beth Abraham Jacob, Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, Each year, this prestigious awards ceremony recognizes individuals for their contributions to the Center and the Jewish community-at-large by acting as moral pillars and dispensers of wisdom and advice, providing continued service and leadership, and acting generously in the spirit of Tzedakah; and

WHEREAS, Widely known for their extraordinary dedication to Israel and the local community, Eitan and Malka Evan's philanthropic and leadership endeavors continue to inspire all of those who are lucky enough to know them; and

WHEREAS, Eitan and Malka Evan, along with their three young sons, Lior, Amir, and Shye, came to Albany from Israel in 1969; Eitan quickly

immersed himself in the family's newspaper, magazine, and book distribution business, and Malka was asked to teach at Bet Shraga Hebrew Academy, where their sons were students; and

WHEREAS, Over time, Eitan Evan expanded the business from a local company to a regional enterprise that today covers 18 different locations in the northeast; he also established the first racquetball facility in the Capital Region; and

WHEREAS, A true asset to his community, Eitan Evan became active with the Israel Bonds organization, which he chaired for eight years, and currently serves on the Federation's foundation board; he received an award for his philanthropy from Brandeis University, for which he later established a scholarship fund; and

WHEREAS, Malka and Eitan Evan created a fund at SUNY Albany to support an annual lecture on the Holocaust in their name; they are also members of the national Jewish Federation's King David Society and Israel Bonds' Prime Ministers Club in recognition of their unwavering support; and

WHEREAS, Malka Evan has been active in the Jewish Federation of Northeastern New York for many years, and held many leadership positions, serving two separate times as chair of the board, the first as chair of the newly merged Albany and Schenectady Federations; and

WHEREAS, In addition, she has been involved with Daughters of Sarah, participating in the development of the Massry Residence, and serving as chair of their board; and

WHEREAS, With a true passion for the field of education and the welfare of children, Malka Evan was a volunteer at the Ronald McDonald house and served on their board of directors; she was a founding board member of Two Together, Inc., as well as an afterschool tutorial program

for children at Giffen Elementary School where she volunteered in the classroom for 20 years; and

WHEREAS, Malka Evan is currently on the board of Bet Shraga and the Federation, and a Lion of Judah donor; she has received national recog-

dition for her commitment and philanthropy, receiving numerous awards including the first woman recipient of the B'nai B'rith Covenant award in Albany; and

WHEREAS, Eitan and Malka Evan reside in Slingerlands and are members of Congregation Beth Emeth; their pride and joy are their five grandchildren, Ari, Alec, Sarah, Maxx and Libby; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by individuals for the benefit of others which Eitan and Malka Evan have displayed throughout their 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 Eitan and Malka Evan upon the occasion of their designation as recipients of the Pillars of the Community Award by the Sidney Albert Albany Jewish Community Center; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Eitan and Malka Evan.