

2015-J5884

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Nancy and Chuck Benfer upon the occasion of their designation for special recognition by Mount Saint Mary College on June 6, 2016

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 commend Nancy and Chuck Benfer upon the occasion of their designation for special recognition by Mount Saint Mary College, to be celebrated at its 38th Annual Invitational Golf Tournament and 5th Annual Tennis Tournament on Monday, June 6, 2016, at The Powelton Club, Newburgh, New York; and

WHEREAS, Nancy and Chuck Benfer have been selected as this year's Tennis Honorees in recognition of their steadfast and unwavering commitment to Mount Saint Mary College and the community-at-large; and

WHEREAS, Lifelong residents of the Hudson Valley, Nancy and Chuck Benfer have been married for 30 years; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Benfer earned both her bachelor's degree and Masters of Science degree in Education: Childhood/Special Education from Mount Saint Mary College; and

WHEREAS, For the past 19 years, Nancy Benfer has worked at Bishop Dunn Memorial School, where she began her illustrious career as a Kindergarten Teaching Assistant; currently, she holds the title of Assistant Principal; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Nancy Benfer is a highly respected adjunct professor in the Mount Saint Mary College's Education Department; an

innovative educator, she spearheaded a project with a co-teacher and 4th grade Bishop Dunn students to write a book about the history of Mount Saint Mary College entitled TEACH ME TRUTH; and

WHEREAS, A well-respected educator, Nancy Benfer has collaborated on several presentations throughout the Hudson Valley and beyond, from subjects on "Inspiring 21st Century Learners Informational Writing through Children's Literature and Media" to "Diversifying the Common Core Text Exemplars"; and

WHEREAS, Recently, Nancy Benfer presented her material at her first national conference for the Literacy Research Association (LRA); her passion for providing all students with books inspired her to co-author "How Common Core's Recommended Books Fail Children of Color" with a fellow Mount Saint Mary College professor; and

WHEREAS, A prolific writer, Nancy Benfer also co-authored "Don't Forget the Pictures: Using Graphical Devices to Learn About Space," which is currently under review with the editors of the MICHIGAN READING JOURNAL; and

WHEREAS, A member of Collaborative for Equity in Literacy Learning (CELL), Nancy Benfer spends her summer supervising Mount Saint Mary College teacher candidates at the Newburgh Armory Unity Center; and

WHEREAS, When Nancy Benfer is not working, she loves to play tennis, and serves as the chair of The Powelton Club Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, In 1989, Chuck Benfer began his radio career with Beacon Broadcasting as an Account Executive; three years later, he joined Rob Dyson's WEOK Broadcasting and worked his way up the corporate ladder until it was sold in 2000; and

WHEREAS, Chuck Benfer stayed on with the new owners, Aurora Communications and Cumulus Media, where he became the Market Manager; from

2009-2012, he held the position of General Manager for Pamal Broadcasting in Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, In December of 2012, Chuck Benfer began working as Market

Manager for Clear Channel of the Hudson Valley; today, he holds the title of Market President of iHeart Media (formerly Clear Channel) in Northern New Jersey, Eastern Pennsylvania and the Hudson Valley; and WHEREAS, For his steadfast and unrelenting commitment to his community, Chuck Benfer has been the recipient of numerous local, regional and national awards and accolades including The Heart of Gold Community Service Award, JDRF's Hope Award, and awards from the American Heart Association, The Alzheimer's Association and the March of Dimes; he was also named one of Radio's 20 Best Managers by RADIO INC. MAGAZINE and is a two time winner of its coveted Market Manager of the Year Award; and WHEREAS, Recently, Chuck Benfer received the Rutberg Breslow Community Service Award for his outstanding efforts in supporting his local community, and was bestowed upon the Most Outstanding Philanthropist Award by The Association of Fundraising Professionals for his work towards advancing the mission for 78 not-for-profit organizations throughout the region; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of his community service, a period of constructive involvement, Nancy and Chuck Benfer have stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor; and

WHEREAS, With them throughout have been their two daughters, Elora and Eliza, and their son, Charles IV, 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 individuals for the benefit of others which Nancy and Chuck Benfer have displayed throughout their lives; 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 commend Nancy and Chuck Benfer upon the occasion of their designation for special recognition by Mount Saint Mary College on June 6, 2016; and

be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Nancy and Chuck Benfer.