

2015-J6465

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Leonard and Shirley DeFrancesco upon the occasion of their designation as recipients of the Sharing the Light Award by the Catholic Charities of the Finger Lakes on June 16th, 2016

WHEREAS, Individuals who give of their time and energies and serve the best interests of their communities are an asset beyond remuneration and cannot be sufficiently extolled; and

WHEREAS, Leonard and Shirley DeFrancesco have given not only of their time and energies but also of their competence, intelligence and leadership and consequently have been designated for special honor; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Leonard "Len" and Shirley DeFrancesco upon the occasion of their designation as recipients of the Sharing the Light Award by the Catholic Charities of the Finger Lakes on Thursday, June 16th, 2016, at Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Geneva, New York; and

WHEREAS, "Len" and Shirley DeFrancesco were born in Rochester, New York, on the same day of the same year; they began dating in high school, and on April 27, 2016, they celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary; and

WHEREAS, After teaching history for one year at Phelps Central School, "Len" DeFrancesco valiantly served in the United States Army for two years; he returned to his teaching position upon the completion of his military commitment; and

WHEREAS, "Len" DeFrancesco later earned a Master's degree in Guidance, and for a short time served as a guidance counselor before returning to his true passion of teaching in the classroom; and

WHEREAS, Upon his retirement from the Phelps Central School District, "Len" DeFrancesco served as a part-time instructor for BOCES, teaching Classroom Management Elements of Instruction to teachers; and

WHEREAS, After their last child entered school, Shirley DeFrancesco began her career with Hobart and William Smith Colleges as Administrative Assistant to Finance and Administration, the esteemed position from which she retired after 24 years of dedicated service; and

WHEREAS, True assets to their community, Len" and Shirley DeFrancesco have both been active in the Hildreth Hill Neighborhood Association where Len helps with the annual pumpkin roll and the annual picnic, neighborhood clean-ups and maintaining the flowers and flags at the 9/11 memorial; Shirley serves as secretary of the Association; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, together, the couple volunteers at the Catholic Charities of the Finger Lakes, the Geneva Community Lunch Program and Meals on Wheels; and

WHEREAS, "Len" DeFrancesco has served as a coach for YMCA T-Ball, Geneva Little League baseball and St. Francis basketball; he served on the YMCA Board and the DeSales Board of Education and is a member of the Ontario Court Watch Task Force; and

WHEREAS, Shirley DeFrancesco was a member of the Mothers' Club at St. Stephen's grammar school and was involved in their children's school activities; she also gave of her time and energy as a volunteer for the Literacy Volunteers and Geneva Head Start; and

WHEREAS, Today, Shirley DeFrancesco bakes for Martha's Ministry and volunteers at the Center of Concern; she has been a member of the Sweet Adeline's International Seneca Soundwaves Chorus and finds singing for nursing home residents to be the most rewarding; and

WHEREAS, With them throughout have been their six children, all of whom feel privileged to be a part of their lives and rejoice in their achievements; and

WHEREAS, "Len" and Shirley DeFrancesco have been called upon to contribute their time and talents to countless civic and charitable endeavors and have always given of themselves unstintingly; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of their community service, a

period of constructive involvement, "Len" and Shirley DeFrancesco have stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by individuals for the benefit of others which Leonard "Len" and Shirley DeFrancesco have displayed throughout their lives; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Leonard and Shirley DeFrancesco upon the occasion of their designation as recipients of the Sharing the Light Award by the Catholic Charities of the Finger Lakes on June 16th, 2016; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Leonard and Shirley DeFrancesco.