

2011-J3040

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Paul Stephen upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2012 Citizen of the Year Award by the Clarence Chamber of Commerce

WHEREAS, Paul Stephen has given not only of his time and energies but also of his competence, intelligence and leadership and consequently has been designated for special honor; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Paul Stephen upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2012 Citizen of the Year Award by the Clarence Chamber of Commerce, to be celebrated on Thursday, February 16, 2012; and

WHEREAS, Paul Stephen grew up in Bowmansville, New York; he attended Lancaster High School and Broward Community College in Florida before returning to the area; in 1984, he partnered with his brother Jim at Intertech Satellite Systems, a startup company selling home television reception with experimental residential satellite dishes; and

WHEREAS, In 1986, Paul Stephen purchased his first real estate property, the Rock Garden Court Motel; over the next 10 years, the satellite business grew rapidly, and by the mid-1990s, the brothers had decided to diversify, with Jim running the new small-dish division, Intertech Digital Entertainment, and Paul focused on the real estate side of the business, which now includes the Sleep Inn and Suites at the Buffalo Airport, and Rock Oak Estates in Clarence; and

WHEREAS, Paul Stephen has established a strong track record of success with his ventures, and has built a reputation for improving the projects he has been involved with; his firm, Stephen Development, has several projects in the works, including a commercial and residential mixed-use development on the site of the present Rock Garden Court Motel; and

WHEREAS, Paul Stephen's most important contribution to the Clarence community is Rock the Barn - a two-day outdoor music festival that this year raised a significant amount to fund the local operations of Meals on Wheels; both he and his committee have given unselfishly to make sure that "Clarence/Newstead/Akron Meals on Wheels" will be available for many years; and

WHEREAS, Paul Stephen 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, Throughout the entire period of his community service, a period of constructive involvement, Paul Stephen has stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout has been his wife, Tamara, who feels privileged to be a part of his life and rejoices in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Paul Stephen has displayed throughout his life; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Paul Stephen upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the 2012 Citizen of the Year Award by the Clarence Chamber of Commerce; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Paul Stephen.