

## 2013-J508

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Ron Lewis upon the occasion of his designation as the recipient of the Jewish War Veterans of the United States Post No. 105's 2013 Four Chaplains Brotherhood Award

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

WHEREAS, Ron Lewis has given not only of his time and energy 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 Ron Lewis upon the occasion of his designation as the recipient of the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America Post No. 105's 2013 Four Chaplains Brotherhood Award; and

WHEREAS, The Four Chaplains Brotherhood Award is given annually to an individual for outstanding participation and service in activities which exemplify the principles of brotherhood; and

WHEREAS, The Four Chaplains gave their lives in the sinking of the troopship Dorchester on February 3, 1943; the Brotherhood Award honors residents of the Capital District whose services and devotion in the practice of brotherhood are deserving of recognition; and

WHEREAS, Ron Lewis will be the 48th recipient of Post 105's Four Chaplains Brotherhood Award which will proudly be presented to him at a ceremony to be held at the Samuel S. Stratton Veterans Affairs Medical Center Chapel on Sunday, February 17, 2013; and

WHEREAS, Ron Lewis is the President of Patriot Flight Inc., an organization which flies WWII veterans to Washington, D.C. to see the WWII and Korean War Memorials and has flown well over 500 WWII veterans there to see and experience the Memorials; and

WHEREAS, Ron Lewis is an active member of both the Sons of the American Legion and the Colonie VFW #8692 Men's Auxiliary; he is President of Rolling Thunder New York Chapter 5, which promotes veterans' issues and legislation associated with veterans; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Ron Lewis volunteered working for Home-4-Joe, an

effort in which he led local fundraising partners and raised over \$40,000 to assist in the building of a home for Tec. Sgt. Joe Wilkinson, a 31-year-old Air Force Veteran, husband, and father of three, who suffers with a compromised spinal cord and leg paralysis, who was able to move into the new residence built for him and his family in Averill Park, New York in December 2012; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Ron Lewis has displayed throughout his life; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the vitality and well-being of their community and its citizens, and have shown a long and sustained commitment to humanitarianism, have certainly earned the recognition and applause of all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Ron Lewis upon the occasion of his designation as the recipient of the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America Post No. 105's 2013 Four Chaplains Brotherhood Award on February 17, 2013; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Ron Lewis.