LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating Brian Sweeney upon the occasion of receiving the distinguished rank of Eagle Scout, the most prestigious of Scouting honors, on May 7, 2016

WHEREAS, Brian Sweeney, through his diligence and rigorous efforts, has achieved Scouting's highest and most prestigious rank, Eagle Scout; the Eagle Court of Honor ceremony will be held on Saturday, May 7, 2016, at Holy Name of Jesus Church, Woodbury, New York; and

WHEREAS, Brian Sweeney is a member of Boy Scouts of America Troop 381, Hicksville, New York; and

WHEREAS, America has achieved her greatest heights of glory through the dedication, determination and tireless efforts of the outstanding citizens of this Nation; and

WHEREAS, It is only with the continued diligence and devotion of our youth, tomorrow's leaders, that America will maintain her glory; and

WHEREAS, The Boy Scouts of America and its members are dedicated to the development of character and leadership in the youth of this Nation; and

WHEREAS, The highest achievement of leadership in Scouting, earned by only five percent of all Boy Scouts, is the distinguished rank of Eagle Scout; and

WHEREAS, This outstanding young man has been involved in Scouting for many years, has lived up to Scouting's ideals and has attained all of the necessary achievements, including completion of a community service project, which was successfully planned, developed and executed; and

WHEREAS, For his project, Brian Sweeney created a St. Joseph's Prayer Garden at Holy Name of Jesus Church, Woodbury, New York, in honor of Joseph Mario Reali, a 25 year-old parishioner who tragically lost his life on January 16, 2015; and

WHEREAS, The beautiful garden consists of a St. Joseph statue surrounded by flowers, bushes and two wooden benches that Brian Sweeney built and stained; he also added a bird bath, solar lights and restored an old bell tower that was located on church property; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Brian Sweeney made a pedestal and walkway out of fieldstone and installed a handrail to help the elderly walk up the walkway; and

WHEREAS, Brian Sweeney's perseverance in rising through the ranks to Eagle Scout is a strong indication of his ability to master difficult tasks; his accomplishment will enable him to emerge as a leader, fully equipped to meet the challenges of today's complex society; and

WHEREAS, This new Eagle Scout is a credit to his family, his school, his community, his State and his Nation, and no doubt his future will be filled with accomplishments of equal importance; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations, in recognition of the significance of this meritorious achievement, to congratulate and honor Brian Sweeney on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Brian Sweeney.